

MASSACHUSETTS RIVERS AND WETLANDS MONTHS CALENDAR FOR 2014

MAY IS WETLANDS MONTH, and JUNE IS RIVERS MONTH! This calendar, covering river-and wetland-related events in Massachusetts from **Saturday, April 26** to **Sunday, July 6**, has been compiled by the **Mass. Department of Fish and Game's [Division of Ecological Restoration \(DER\)](#)** to provide you with the opportunity to participate in events in, on, along or about the rivers and wetlands of the Commonwealth. Take this opportunity to invite your friends, family, local leaders, legislators, and/or a favorite reporter to clean up, paddle, protect, enjoy and celebrate your favorite rivers, streams, salt marshes and freshwater wetlands, or experience new ones. Get some healthful exercise and spend time in nature in and/or along the Commonwealth's many scenic waterways and marshes.

The events below are listed in chronological order and are labeled with the [Massachusetts river or watershed](#) the activity takes place in or on. Many activities require reservations in advance. Please call/e-mail ahead to inquire about any restrictions, fees, rain dates or cancellations that may apply. Any questions should be directed to the event organizers at the contact phone numbers and/or e-mails provided for each listing.

If you know of an event that is not yet listed on this Calendar but ought to be, send the info along to Russ Cohen at Russ.Cohen@state.ma.us, and he may be able to add it. You may also want to **re-visit this Calendar from time to time** to look for any newly-added events, updated info, etc. [*this Calendar was most recently updated on 6/13/14.*] Lastly, don't forget to check out the **Mass. Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' [The Great Outdoors Blog](#)** for more info on these and other outdoor events and activities.

Event Listings by Week:

[April 26 – May 2](#)

[May 3 – May 9](#)

[May 10 – May 16](#)

[May 17 – May 23](#)

[May 24 – May 30](#)

[May 31 – June 6](#)

[June 7 – June 13](#)

[June 14 – June 20](#)

[June 21 – June 27](#)

[June 28 – July 6](#)

April and May weekends (Saturday and Sunday) – CONCORD RIVER – *Whitewater Rafting Trips* in Lowell, 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, sponsored by the [Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust](#) and [Zoar Outdoor](#). “This whitewater gem plunges over three major Class III - IV rapids - Twisted Sister, Three Beauties, and Middlesex Dam. Each trip includes two runs down the Lowell reach of the Concord. Adventurous rafters 14 and older are welcome. Your trip concludes with passage through an 1850's lock chamber that brings you right into downtown, seeing the city like never before. A portion of the proceeds support the Trust's work on the Concord River.” Call (800) 532-7483 for reservations, or click [here](#) for more info or to view the slide show or video.

April 26 – May 2

April 26 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – *Park Serve Day*, sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#) (DCR). Park Serve Day is an opportunity to pitch in and help spruce up the Commonwealth's forests and parks. “During this statewide day of volunteer service, we will work together to get parks and

beaches across Massachusetts ready for the year by cleaning coastlines, clearing trails, planting flowers, painting picnic tables, and more. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more info on [opportunities to participate in a Park Serve Day activity near you](#). If you need help finding contact information for the supervisor at your local park, call or email us at (617) 626-1250 or mass.parks@state.ma.us”.

April 26 (Saturday) – LITTLE RIVER and ALEWIFE BROOK (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – Alewife Reservation Earth Day Cleanup, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Cambridge, sponsored by the [Friends of Alewife Reservation](#) (FAR). Co-sponsored by [Green Cambridge](#) and in coordination with [DCR’s Park Serve Day](#), you are invited to help clean up areas along the Little River and Alewife Brook. The Cleanup day will feature trash removal, river debris removal, and some invasive plant removal. Refreshments and recruitment for local volunteer work will be included. All cleanup supplies will be provided. Volunteers should meet outside the Alewife MBTA station at the passenger pickup area. After the cleanup, at 2:00 PM, there will be a tour of the [new storm water wetland](#) by FAR president, Ellen Mass. The natural filtration system and restored habitat of various marsh types will be explained. Click [here](#) or contact FAR at info@friendsofalewifereservation.org or (617) 415-1884 for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – SAUGUS RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – Earth Day Cleanup at Marshview Park in Lynn, 9:30AM-12:00 Noon, part of [DCR’s Park Serve Day](#). The [Saugus River Watershed Council](#) will team up with the DCR staff to trim bushes and remove trash from the park and the surrounding areas abutting the Saugus River. Gloves, bags and water will be provided. Directions: Marshview Park is located adjacent to the Saugus River on Boston Street in Lynn, directly across the street from O’Briens in Lynn, and across the river from Spud’s Restaurant in Saugus.

April 26 (Saturday) – SAUGUS RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – Earth Day Cleanup at the Breakheart Reservation in Saugus, part of [DCR’s Park Serve Day](#). The [Saugus River Watershed Council](#) will again team up with the DCR staff and volunteers from [Friends of Breakheart Reservation](#) to help clean up trash at Breakheart Reservation in Saugus and other nearby locations in the Saugus River watershed. Volunteers should sign in at the Saugus River Watershed Council table in front of the [Visitor’s Center at Breakheart](#). Click [here](#) for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – 8th Annual “Work for Wildlife” Statewide Volunteer Day, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Massachusetts Audubon Society](#). You’re invited to pitch in on projects at sixteen of Mass. Audubon’s sanctuaries, almost all of which include rivers, streams and/or wetlands. Many projects can accommodate people of all ages, so bring your family or a group of friends and spend a morning working for wildlife. No special skills required – just a desire to make a difference while enjoying the outdoors. Click [here](#) for more details and to sign up to volunteer on 4/26, and click [here](#) for info on other volunteer work opportunities at Mass. Audubon sanctuaries.

April 26 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – Canoe Meadows Cleanup Day, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at the [Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary](#) in Pittsfield, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Berkshire Sanctuaries](#). “We need your help! Each spring, we prepare our properties for the upcoming busy summer and fall seasons. We rely on volunteers to help us with the various projects throughout the day. Tools and gloves will be available for use. A pizza lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Wear appropriate footwear. Because lunch is provided, pre-registration is requested. This is a free program. To register for the Canoe Meadows Cleanup Day, please contact our office at (413) 637-0320, or berkshires@massaudubon.org.”

April 26 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – Westfield Earth Day Cleanup, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the City of Westfield. Meet at the [Masonic Lodge, 72 Broad Street](#). Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring waterproof boots, work gloves, and a desire to help clean the environment! Walk-ins Welcome! The event takes place Rain or Shine. Contact Karen Leigh [(413) 572-6281, k.leigh@cityofwestfield.org] to sign up or for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Spring River Cleanup*, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Westfield River Watershed Association](#). “We’ll be meeting at the [parking area off Meadow Street](#), just SE of the Great River Bridges in Westfield, sending small groups to work in various areas along the river in Westfield. Wear old clothes (you may get dirty and/or wet!) and bring water and work gloves if you have them. We’ll provide trash bags and directions to a site that needs some work. You’ll be done by around noon.” Click [here](#) or contact [Mark Damon](#) [(413) 572-9991] for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Earth Day Cleanups* in Andover. Two cleanups to choose from: At 9:00 AM, link up with Andover Conservation Commission, Sustainable Andover, Boy Scouts, the Andover Village Improvement Society, Master Rowers, Andover Youth Services, Raytheon, Whole Foods, MassDEP, Andover Recycling, Philips Andover Academy, and the Clean River Project; or, at 12:30 PM, link up with the Merrimack River Watershed Council and Beyond Soccer for a cleanup sponsored by the Andover Conservation Commission. Both cleanup groups meet at the same location: the [old Andover Companies Parking lot, off of New England Business Center Drive](#). Click [here](#) or call (978) 655-4742 for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Second Annual Pioneer Valley Outdoor Fair* in Holyoke, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Come meet clubs and organizations from across the Pioneer Valley who know how to enjoy the outdoors. Participate in a day full of free outdoor fun for the whole family, including a variety of hikes for all ages, nature activities for kids, birding excursions for adults, and much more. More than a dozen active outdoor organizations will have information tables and will offer outdoor activities throughout the day. The fair’s main location is at the [Kittredge Center](#), Room 301 at [Holyoke Community College](#), and the hiking, biking, etc. trips will leave from/return to there. Click [here](#) for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – MILL RIVER (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – *Exploratory paddle* in Northampton, sponsored by the [Mill River Greenway Initiative](#). This paddle will take place “down in the floodplain forest, where the Mill River feeds into old Oxbow of the Connecticut River. We’ll be joined by the great Dave McLain, resident ecologist at Mass Audubon’s Arcadia Wildlife Refuge. Canoes will be provided! Please email info@millrivergreenway.org to reserve your spot.” Other Mill River explorations (by boat and/or foot) will also be offered later this spring; click [here](#) for more info on the 4/26 event, and [here](#) for more info on the other events.

April 26 (Saturday) – RATTLESNAKE GUTTER BROOK (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – *Birding at Rattlesnake Gutter*, 7:00 AM-10:00 AM in Leverett, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Connecticut Valley Sanctuaries](#). Join experienced birder, photographer and naturalist [John Green, Jr.](#) on a moderate hike along a dirt road through a heavily wooded area adjacent to a beautiful ravine to look for birds such as the winter wren, black-throated blue and black-throated green warblers, and scarlet tanagers. Barred owls can often be heard in this pristine habitat. Fee: Adults \$10/member, \$15/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *“Our Amazing Spring Wildflowers:” Guided Walk* at [Bartholomew’s Cobble](#) in Sheffield, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Sheffield is a global hotspot for rare species – and Bartholomew’s Cobble puts on one of the best shows of spring ephemerals from mid-April to mid-May. Come greet the rich variety of wildflowers, and leave with an understanding of how to help identify and protect these gems of our native flora – not just in conservation lands, but in your own yard and the open spaces of your community. Conservation Ranger Rene Wendell will demonstrate what makes this particular environment so well-suited to rare and diverse plants and explain what the Cobble is doing to protect the natural resilience of this landscape. We’ll start at the ‘What’s in Bloom’ Board to preview what’s out there, and then go on a guided walk to see the Cobble’s April favorites: Bishop’s Cap, Nodding Trillium, Dutchman’s Breeches, and much more.” Click [here](#) or call (413) 229-8600 to sign up or for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – TOWN BROOK (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Herring Run Festival* in Plymouth, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by [Plimoth Plantation](#). The event takes place at Plimoth Grist Mill at Jenny Pond (6 Spring Ln, Plymouth). “Plymouth’s Town Brook in April means one thing—the annual herring run! Every April, tens of thousands of herring leave the ocean to head upstream to lay their eggs in freshwater. Most of the herring that migrate through Town Brook are a variety known as alewives, which Native Wampanoag have been using as food and fertilizer for centuries. Come watch the herring run up Town Brook (Mother Nature permitting); visit with local scientists to learn about their efforts to restore the herring population; hear about dam removal projects on Town Brook; get a close up view of the herring; and help scientists collect data by counting herring. You’ll also learn about (and meet) another fascinating and important resident of Town Brook—the American Eel! The Herring Run Festival will also feature special hands-on activities for kids, music, local artisan marketplace and, of course, Plimoth Grist Mill will be grinding organic cornmeal and sampe (grits) and sharing samples of our favorite corn dishes. Fee: Free with Museum Admission: Adults \$6 and Children (5-12) \$4.50. Contact Plimoth Plantation at (508) 746-1622, extension 8346 or click [here](#) for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – CAPE COD CANAL (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – “*Herring Run Bike Tour*”, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Bourne, sponsored by the [Buzzards Bay Coalition](#). “Join the Coalition for a leisurely bike ride along the Cape Cod Canal to see the spring river herring run. This fun ride will be a unique way to get a view of the yearly herring migration and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the [Cape Cod Canal](#). The ride will be an ‘out and back’ 7-mile round trip route, from the Buzzards Bay Recreation Area (under the railroad bridge) to the Herring Run Recreation Area and back”. Meet at the [Buzzards Bay Recreation Area](#), Bourne. While there is no cost for this event, pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 999-6363 ext. 219 to sign up or for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – SUDBURY- ASSABET - CONCORD WATERSHED – *Musketaquid Earth Day Celebration in Concord*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the [Emerson Umbrella Center for the Arts](#). This annual event includes a morning River Ceremony, the Earth Day Parade through Concord Center, and an Arts and Environment Festival involving many local collaborating organizations. In the months leading up to Earth Day, Musketaquid sponsors many different workshops in which participants can create Earth Floats, puppets, costumes, musical instruments, and more, for the event. Earth Day 2014 marks the 24th anniversary of [Musketaquid Arts and Environment](#). Click [here](#), call the Musketaquid Information Line at (978) 371-0820 ext. 213, or email musketaquid@emersonumbrella.org for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Earth Day River Cleanup* in Lawrence, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, co-sponsored by [Groundwork Lawrence](#) and the [Shawsheen River Watershed Association](#) (SRWA). “As part of the Statewide Volunteer\Earth Day and [Comcast Cares Day](#), the SRWA is ‘partnering up’ with Groundwork Lawrence to do a cleanup on a stretch of the river in Lawrence in the vicinity of Coyne and Costello Parks. We will have people picking up trash and debris in canoes and on the river banks. Please come help us clean up the river!” Click [here](#) or write to ShawsheenRiver@gmail.com for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER (FRENCH and QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *Annual French River Cleanup* in Webster, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the [French River Connection](#). “Meet at the [Webster Town Hall \(350 Main St.\)](#). Gloves, bags, etc. will be provided, and assignments will be given. If you would prefer to work in Dudley, go to the [Highway Department on Indian Road](#) at 9:00 AM. In either case, please register as a French River Connection participant. This activity is part of the [Webster-Dudley Business Alliance’s Earth Day Cleanup](#). T-shirts and tree seedlings will be distributed to volunteers while supplies last. Participants should bring all trash collected back to the dumpsters provided at Webster Town Hall or the Dudley Highway Garage. At the end of the cleanup, you will be asked to fill out a ‘Trash Tracker’ form. As a special addition this year, there will also be an **Earth Day Concert** that evening, from 6:00 -8:00 PM at Webster Town Hall, featuring several local musicians, including [Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards](#). All events are free & open to the public. Contact Ed Bazinet [(508) 943-5509 or frenchriverconnection@gmail.com] for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER – *Flatwater paddle from Oxford to Webster*, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [French River Connection](#). “This leisurely paddle will begin at Agguteback Pond, just below Hodges Village Dam on Howarth Road in Oxford and end at North Village in Webster, a distance of about 4 miles. Paddlers will enjoy an easy flowing river that meanders through marshlands and woodlands. There should be opportunities to see some wildlife that inhabit the French River including turtles, great blue heron, geese, ducks, and beavers. The trip is suitable for paddlers with moving water experience. PFDs are absolutely required and must be worn. There is no charge for this trip. To register, contact trip leader Jay Wade at joseph.l.wade@ampf.com or call (860) 928-5599 (work) or (508) 461-9813 (home). Meet at 9:00 AM at Hodges Village, bring your lunch and clothing appropriate for the weather.” Click [here](#) for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *15th Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Charles River Watershed Association](#). “Volunteers participate as part of more than 100 different neighborhood, school, religious, and corporate teams, as well as individually. Our volunteers remove trash and debris including television sets, bicycles, styrofoam cups, and plastic bags located in the river and on its banks at 100 sites along the 80-mile river.” Click [here](#) for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – MUDDY RIVER (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *Olmsted’s Birthday Celebration*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM at [Olmsted Park](#). “On this day in 1822, Frederick Law Olmsted was born in Hartford, CT. This free event is open to everyone. Enjoy: a Park Tour with Mr. Olmsted; Quest; Music; Sidewalk Chalk Art; Birthday Cake; Tree Identification Walk; Pooch Parade; Glitter Tattoos; and Nature Stories! This birthday celebration is sponsored by High Street Association, Friends of Leverett Pond, Brookline Parks and Open Space, and the Brookline Greenspace Alliance.” Click [here](#), [here](#), or write to criverevents@gmail.com for more info.

April 26 (Saturday) – MYSTIC RIVER – *Friends of the Mystic River Annual Spring Cleanup* in Medford, 9:30AM – 1:00PM, sponsored by the [Friends of the Mystic River](#). Meet at the [Hormel Stadium parking lot, 90 Locust St. in Medford](#). The cleanup includes the Mystic Riverbend Park, MacDonald Park and Wellington Greenway, but participants may travel to any other locations they wish to work on along the Mystic in Medford. Morning and lunchtime refreshments provided. In the event of heavy rain, the cleanup will be Sunday, April 27. Call (781) 391-2604 or email Mystic02155@hotmail.com for more info, and click [here](#) for more info on this and other Mystic River watershed cleanups taking place this spring.

April 26 (Saturday) – MYSTIC RIVER – *Mystic River Earth Day Clean-Up*, 9:00 – 12:00 Noon in Somerville, sponsored by the [Mystic River Watershed Association](#) (MyRWA). MyRWA, in partnership with the City of Somerville, Groundwork Somerville, Gentle Giant Rowing Club and KEEN Footwear, are hosting a river clean-up from 9AM until noon, with a BBQ afterwards at the [Blessing of the Bay Boathouse, 32 Shore Drive, Somerville](#). This event is also part of [Comcast Cares Day](#). Groups will disperse from the boathouse in various directions. All supplies will be provided. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Beth MacBlane [(781) 316-3438 or beth@mysticriver.org] for more info, and [here](#) for info on other spring cleanups in the Mystic River watershed.

April 26 (Saturday) – PARKER AND MERRIMACK RIVERS – *“Up Close and Personal” Tour of the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge*, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#). “Join a refuge ranger for an ‘up close and personal’ tour of the [Parker River National Wildlife Refuge](#). The tour will be conducted via refuge van, with several brief ‘drive by’ stops along the way. The tour will provide an ‘insider’s’ perspective of the refuge through the multiple lenses of the cultural history of Plum Island and the [Great Marsh](#), native wildlife and their habitats, and the role of refuge management in the conservation of these precious natural resources. This guided two-hour program is most appropriate for older teens and adults. Binoculars and/or a camera are recommended, but not required. Meet the ranger in the lobby of the Refuge visitor center 15 minutes prior to the program start time. Each session is limited to 8 participants; no more than 4 individuals per sign-up. Again, this is a vehicle-based tour, with limited stops on the Refuge. Advance registration is required for this program, as enrollment is limited.” Click [here](#) or call (978) 465-5753 to sign up for this program or for more info. [Similar trips are offered on 4/27 and 4/28.]

April 26 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Water Dances*, 7:30 PM – 8:45 PM in Northfield. “This public sound and light ceremony and gesture of appreciation to the Connecticut River, is a collaboration between Conway, MA celebration artist, Phyllis Labanowski; Brazilian sound artist, Ricardo Frota of Ware, MA; and those who come to dance or watch; the evening will include vibrant, multicultural percussion and illuminated hula hoops. Observers may bring snacks and arrive at the [Riverview Picnic Area Pavilion \(156 Pine Meadow Road\)](#) by 7:30 PM to watch the sunset and enjoy the transition through dusk into dark. The performance begins at 8:00 PM. Everyone is welcome. Bring a flashlight, lawn chair or blanket, and an extra layer for possible spring breezes off the river”. Click [here](#) or call (413) 659-4461 for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD and CONNECTICUT RIVERS – *Spring River Cleanup* in Agawam, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Westfield River Watershed Association](#). “Meet at Pynchon Point (River Road in Agawam, just north of the Rt. 57 bridge over the Connecticut). Wear old clothes (you may get dirty and/or wet!) and bring water and work gloves if you have them. We’ll provide trash bags. You’ll be done by around noon.” Click [here](#) or contact [Sheryl Becker](#) for more info. [NOTE: If the weather doesn’t cooperate or the water level is too high, the Agawam cleanup will be rescheduled to Sunday, May 4th. Go to [www.westfieldriver.org](#) the day before to see if it’s been rescheduled.]

April 27 (Sunday) – CONNECTICUT WATERSHED – “*Year of the Salamander*” hike at Mt. Warner, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM in Hadley, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “The Trustees are celebrating the ‘[Year of the Salamander](#)’ with a hike to a vernal pool at one of our newest properties. A vernal pool is a low spot in the forest that seasonally fills with water. Because predatory fish cannot survive in these temporary pools, they are one of the most preferred places for salamanders to lay their eggs in the spring. Join us to learn more and see what we can find.” Click [here](#) or call (413) 532-1631 to sign up or for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Vernal Pool Certification Workshop* at [Bartholomew’s Cobble](#) in Sheffield, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). Vernal pools are wetlands filled with life – like shrimp, clams, insects, frogs, and salamanders – yet many remain unprotected in Massachusetts. Did you know that you can learn how to certify a vernal pool and help conserve these precious habitats? Local environmentalist Jane Winn of the [Berkshire Environmental Action Team](#) (BEAT) will teach attendees about Massachusetts vernal pool regulations and criteria. This short talk will be followed by a vernal pool visit. Be prepared to get wet, muddy, and have fun! Fee: \$20 for Trustees members or non-members. Proceeds go to support floodplain forest restoration work at the Cobble and amphibian conservation with BEAT. Click [here](#) or call (413) 229-8600 for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – MONOOSNOC BROOK (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *North Monoosnoc Trail Clean-up Project*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Leominster, sponsored by the [Leominster Trail Stewards](#). “LTS will be participating in the [Star Project](#), with hands-on trail work for volunteers to clean the winter debris from one of Leominster’s most beautiful trails, the North Monoosnoc Trail. This trail is a hidden gem, only known to a few seasoned hikers, and has one of the most breathtaking vistas in the area. What makes this project exciting is our experienced trail team will guide the group of volunteers along this trail to teach them about the features of this wonderful trail. Giving them the knowledge to hike these trails on their own with family & friends in the future and for them to understand the work required to keep our trails open. LTS will provide the volunteers a light lunch during the project. Here is your opportunity to help provide safe hiking trails with a great group of people. Meet at the West Street trailhead parking lot ([corner of West St & Harwood Terrace](#) in Leominster).” Click [here](#) or write to jsumner@leominster-ma.gov for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – WAREHAM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *1st Annual Wareham Oyster Festival 5K Run/Walk*, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the Wareham Village Association. The race will begin at the [Wareham Fire Station](#) located at 273 Main Street, and finish in the middle of Main Street. The race route (a good bit of which parallels the river) is paved, and other than a few minor hills, it’s primarily flat. Click [here](#) for more info. Kayak rentals from the [Nemasket Kayak Center](#) to paddle the Wareham River during the [Wareham Oyster Festival](#) will also be available; click [here](#) for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Spring Bird Walk in the Reading Town Forest*, 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM, sponsored by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#). Park on Grove St. and meet at the end of Strout Ave., for this walk at the Reading Town Forest, which borders the Ipswich River (see [map](#)). “The walk is free and open to all - young and old, regardless of bird watching experience. Some of the birds we hope to see include Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Virginia Rail, members of the Warbler family, Wood Thrush, and many more! Besides looking for birds, we’ll have the opportunity to see many different wildflowers, flowering trees and shrubs, and discuss the natural history of Reading.” Click [here](#) or contact Dave Williams [(781) 944-8118 or dave.williams6@gmail.com] for more info. [Similar events are scheduled for 5/11 and 5/25.]

April 27 (Sunday) – MAPLE SWAMP (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – “*Maple Swamp Sandwich*” hike, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the [Southeastern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). This will be a hilly hike at the [Maple Swamp conservation area in Sandwich](#), through historic woodlands which date back to the original settlers, home to a Maple swamp, quaking bog and other sights. Directions: Take Rte. 6 to Exit 3, turn S on Quaking Meetinghouse Rd, and take immediate L on Service Rd; the Maple Swamp trailhead is approx. 1 mile on R. From upper Cape, take exit 4, turn S over highway, and take immediate right onto Service Rd, Maple Swamp approx. 1 mile on left. Meet 12:45 PM; the hike starts at 1:00 PM. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Jane Harding [(508) 833-2864 (best time to call: before 8:00 PM)] for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – “*Herring on the Run*” van tour, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM in Marshfield, sponsored by (and starting/ending at) Mass. Audubon’s [North River Wildlife Sanctuary](#), and co-sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) (NSRWA). “Starting in early April, herring will be on the run to reach their historic spawning grounds. Join the NSRWA’s Samantha Woods, Sara Grady and other watershed ecologists on a driving tour (we provide the vans) where they will provide the fascinating stories of the history, science and social significance of the runs in our area and our efforts to restore them. If we are lucky we might see some actual herring making their way upstream to spawn!” Fee: Adults \$12/members, \$15/non-members. As a limited number of seats are available on the van, pre-registration is required. Registration will be taken online with NSRWA at <http://www.nsrwa.org> or by calling the NSRWA’s office at: (781) 659-8168. Click [here](#) for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *32nd Annual Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race*, sponsored by the [Charles River Watershed Association](#). New England’s largest canoe and kayak race, “ROTC” features a variety of races for all skill levels, from expert to novice: 6, 9, and 19 mile races, a 24-mile, five-leg canoe relay race, and a 26-mile professional marathon. The event showcases the ongoing improvements in the Charles River, while drawing 1,500 paddlers and hundreds of spectators to enjoy a day on and along the river. Click [here](#) to register or for more info, or contact [Alexandra Ash](#) or write to rotc@crwa.org for more info on any aspect of the race and related events.

April 27 (Sunday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *All American River Race* in Sturbridge, sponsored by the [Sturbridge Lions Club](#). This is an annual timed race of over six miles, starting one craft each minute. Registration begins at 9:00 AM at Turners Field, off of Route 20 in Fiskdale. The first boat is sent off at 11:01 AM and heads for the finish line at the Army Corps’ [Westville Dam Recreational Area](#) in Southbridge. Trophies are given to the first three finishers in each class. The Westville Dam Recreational Area features food and entertainment as well as strategic viewing spots to see the craft negotiate the rapids area. Click [here](#), [here](#), or contact Chairman Lion Dale Favreau at (508) 347-9636 or Randy Peppard at rpeppard@msn.com for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – *Annual Earth Day Cleanup*, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, sponsored by the [Blackstone River Watershed Association](#) (BRWA). “On Earth Day each April, the BRWA recruits and organizes volunteers to remove tons of trash and debris at numerous sites throughout the Blackstone River watershed. Some of these volunteers come from scout troops or church groups. Others are students studying environment science or ecology, or members of civic organizations. Many of these volunteers return year after year, devoting their time, effort, and enthusiasm to help restore the river’s health. Last year, we had over 180

volunteers of all ages on the shorelines and in the waterways removing litter, construction debris, tires, and more. Do you know of a waterway that needs cleaning? Please let us know. You can also contact us to let us know that you'll lend a hand that day. After the cleanup, volunteers will meet at the [River Bend Farm Visitor Center](#) for pizza and drinks. More details will be provided as the date gets closer." Click [here](#) or contact Susan Thomas, BRWA Program Assistant [(508) 278-5200 or events@thebrwa.org] for more info.

April 27 (Sunday) – MYSTIC WATERSHED – *Walk the Historic Middlesex Canal* route in Medford and Winchester, 1:30 PM start, co-sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#) and the [Middlesex Canal Association](#). This will be a 3-mile, leisurely walk along a scenic section of historic canal route. Sites along the way include the aqueduct and mooring basin, those segments of the canal bed and berm visible off the parkway, and the stone wall of the Governor Brooks estate, in Medford. Directions: Meet at Sandy (Shannon) Beach lot at Upper Mystic Lake on Mystic Valley Pkwy., 1.3 mi. N of Rte. 60. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click [here](#) or contact the trip leaders [Roger Hagopian, (781) 861-7868 (until 10:00 PM) or Robert Winters, Robert@rwinters.com] with any questions.

April 27 (Sunday) – SUDBURY WATERSHED – *Vernal Pool Exploration with Matt Burne*, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM in Lincoln, co-sponsored by the [Lincoln Land Conservation Trust](#), the [Walden Woods Project](#), and the [Lincoln Conservation Commission](#). "Matt Burne, a herpetologist and Conservation Director for the Walden Woods Project, will lead a walk to explore vernal pools in Lincoln. Participants will visit some local wetlands for signs of spotted salamanders, wood frogs, and fairy shrimp, learn about the importance of vernal pools and how to protect them. No doubt many people have heard the wood frogs' duck-like calls and the high-pitched chorus of tiny spring peepers, a species of tree frog. Participants should wear footwear for a one-two mile walk. Please park and meet at the far end of the [Donelans parking lot at 145 Lincoln Rd](#). Click [here](#) or call (857) 234-2476 for more info on this free event.

April 28 (Monday) – CHARLES RIVER – *13th Annual Meeting of The Esplanade Association* in Boston, 6:00 PM start. The [Esplanade Association's](#) Annual Meeting is taking place at The Hampshire House, [84 Beacon Street](#). The main presentation topic is "Investing in Our Heritage: Improvements to the Hatch Shell Lawn and the Eliot Memorial", by Rob Adams, Associate Principal, Halvorson Design Partnership. Click [here](#) for more info or RSVP to Kasey Fitzgerald [(617) 227-0365 ext. 102 or kfitzgerald@esplanadeassociation.org] by Monday, April 21.

April 29 (Tuesday) – CLAM RIVER (FARMINGTON WATERSHED) – *Clam River Hike* in Sandisfield, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Berkshire Natural Resources Council](#). "BNRC will be building a new trail this summer on our [Clam River Reserve](#). Come walk the route and see it before the work starts. This hike will be mostly off trail, with short sections on existing woods road. Great views of both the Buck River and the Clam River along the way! We'll meet at the Sandisfield Town Hall Annex on Rte. 57 ([66 Sandisfield Road](#)). Click [here](#) or call (413) 499-0596 for more info.

April 30 (Wednesday) – SALEM SOUND (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *"Shellfish, Shellfish Everywhere and Not a Clam to Eat!"* talk, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM at the [Abbot Public Library, lower level meeting room, 235 Pleasant Street in Marblehead](#), sponsored by [Salem Sound Coastwatch](#). Part of the "Underwater in Salem Sound" Lecture Series, this will be an Illustrated Talk by Barbara Warren - Executive Director, Salem Sound Coastwatch. The event is free and open to the public. "Did you know that there are 7 kinds of edible shellfish that live in Salem Sound? And yet none of them are edible! At this presentation, Barbara Warren, Executive Director of Salem Sound Coastwatch, will talk about the state of the shellfish beds in Salem Sound, the important ecological functions they provide, and what we can expect in the future. She will also share preliminary results of a current quahog study at Forest River Park in Salem and Riverhead Beach in Marblehead." Click [here](#) or call (978) 741-7900 for more info.

April 30 (Wednesday) – MYSTIC RIVER – “*The Mystic River: A Natural and Human History*”

illustrated lecture, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM at the [Jenks Center](#), Skillings Road in Winchester (see [directions](#)), and co-sponsored by the Winchester Seniors Association and the Council on Aging. The presenter, [Richard Beinecke](#), has (in collaboration with the [Mystic River Watershed Association](#)) researched and written a book entitled [The Mystic River: A Natural and Human History and Recreation Guide](#). He will speak about the history of the Mystic River as well as providing a discussion of the River’s environmental issues for the towns it traverses, with a special emphasis on Winchester. Click [here](#) for more info on the talk.

April 30 (Wednesday) – ASSABET RIVER – 6th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival in Maynard, sponsored by [OARS: For the Assabet, Sudbury and Concord Rivers](#). OARS’ Wild & Scenic Film Festival will be a selection of 2014 award-winning films from [Wild and Scenic](#), the nation’s largest environmental film festival. The films share stories of love for the outdoors, activism, and an awareness of change in the natural world. Doors open at 6:00 PM at the Festival venue, [Maynard’s newly renovated Fine Arts Theatre Place](#), and films show from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM. Admission is \$12, or \$30 (which includes a new OARS membership). Click [here](#) to purchase tickets or for more info.

April 30 (Wednesday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Bird Walk at the Stebbins Refuge*, 7:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Allen Bird Club](#). Expect to see water birds and arriving songbirds. Bring footwear appropriate for wet trails. Meet at [Fannie Stebbins Wildlife Refuge](#) sign on [Bark Haul and Pondsides Roads in Longmeadow](#). Click here or contact Al & Lois Richardson [(413) 736-0846, ALNLOISR@aol.com] for more info. [Similar events are scheduled for 5/7, 5/14, and 5/21.]

May 1-31 – NATIONWIDE – *American Wetlands Month* – click [here](#) for more info.

May 1-3 (Thursday – Saturday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *Spring Meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society* (NEERS), [Salem Waterfront Hotel](#) in Salem. “NEERS is a non-profit organization with a wide-ranging membership from scientific and educational institutions, federal, state, and municipal agencies, and nonprofit organizations. The purpose of the society is to bring together persons actively engaged in estuarine and coastal research and management for informal discussion and exchange of ideas. NEERS meets in the spring of every year. Meetings usually begin with a special symposium to focus upon issues of a topical or regional nature. This is followed by 1-1/2 days of regular sessions.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 1 (Thursday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Oyster and Salt Marsh Impacts on Cape Cod*, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the [New England Aquarium’s IMAX Theatre](#). The presenter, Curtis S. Felix, is vice chair of the Comprehensive Wastewater Planning Committee in Wellfleet, as well as Wellfleet’s representative to the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative and the County 208 Technical Advisory Committee. Felix will present an update on a large-scale oyster habitat restoration effort in Wellfleet and similar initiatives elsewhere in the Commonwealth to bring back the bivalve from its nearly 99 percent reduction in population. Learn more about how oysters can clean the water, help restore lost fish populations in Massachusetts Bay, prevent coastal erosion, buffer against ocean acidification and taste great! Click [here](#) to register and [here](#) for more info.

May 1 (Thursday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – “*Bennett Meadow Blooms*” walk, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, sponsored by the [Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center](#). “Enjoy an evening immersed in the magic of spring at [Bennett Meadow Wildlife Management Area](#). The diverse habitats there include rich floodplain forests bursting with spring wildflowers, fertile farmland with the hills of Northfield in the distance, and beaver ponds hosting nesting waterfowl and spring peepers. The group will wander, watch and chat about plant and animal discoveries unique to this ephemeral season. Collecting and preparing fiddlehead ferns to enjoy with our own picnic supper will provide participants with a true spring tonic. This two-mile walk may include bushwhacking and muddy, uneven terrain to add a little adventure to the evening. This free event is for ages 10 and older. Please call to pre-register at (800) 859-2960.” Click [here](#) or contact Bill Gabriel [(413) 659-4426 or william.gabriel@gdfsuezna.com] for more info.

May 2 (Friday) – NASHUA AND STILL RIVERS – “Wetland Birds of Bolton Flats Wildlife Management Area” field trip, 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM in Bolton, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). The Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife’s 923-acre [Bolton Flats Wildlife Management Area](#) “a bird watcher’s hot spot...contains extensive floodplains of the Nashua and Still Rivers. Each spring, the swelling rivers create wetlands that attract waterfowl, waders, and shorebirds”. Join Teacher-Naturalist [Scott Santino](#) on a field trip to explore Bolton Flats as well as the nearby “Wachusett Reservoir, the second largest body of freshwater in the state. After lunch, we’ll make our way to the reservoir and scan for loons, grebes, and ducks that have yet to migrate”. Fee: Adults \$36/members, \$43/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

> [return to top of document](#)

May 3 – May 9

May 3 (Saturday) – CEDAR SWAMP (CHICOPEE WATERSHED) – *Birding Exploration of Cedar Swamp in Wilbraham*, 7:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Allen Bird Club](#). Expect to see arriving songbirds. Meet at [Wilbraham Middle School on Stony Hill Road](#) in Wilbraham. Bring water and a snack. Click [here](#) or contact Kate Leary [(413) 596-9643] or Bobby Olsen [(413) 596-6990] for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – FULLER BROOK (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *Brook Path and Crosstown Trail Walk*, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by the [Wellesley Trails Committee](#). “Explore the northern section of Fuller Brook Park and trails that parallel Washington Street from the Wellesley High School to Clock Tower Park. We will start the walk on the Brook Path, walk along the Caroline Brook to Phillips Park, and from Maugus Ave, we will return on the Crosstown Trail along the Cochituate Aqueduct through the Hunnewell Fields. Meet at 9:00 AM at the State Street parking lot, adjacent to the High School stadium.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Fly Fishing for Shad*, 9:00 AM start at [Luddam’s Ford Park](#) in Hanover, co-sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) and the [Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of Trout Unlimited](#). “Learn how to catch American Shad while learning about conservation of the rivers which is so important to the health of the fish. Participants should bring their own fly fishing equipment; some rods and materials will be available to try. Suggested donation is \$10 on the day of the event. Click [here](#) or call (781) 659-8168 for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – “Big Walk” at the [Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve](#), 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Strap on your hiking boots and experience the vastness of the unbroken forest on a walk that spans the full length of the 13,600-acre Bioreserve. From old mill ponds and abandon farm sites to vernal pools and cedar swamps you won't believe the wilderness right in our own backyard. The full hike is 12 miles, but pick-ups will be available every few miles along the way and transportation will be provided back your car.” The hike begins at the Freetown/Fall River State Forest Headquarters, Slab Bridge Rd., Assonet (see [map](#)). Click [here](#) or call (508) 636-4693 ext.103 for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – WEWEANTIC RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – “Weweantic River Reserve Cleanup”, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Wareham, sponsored by the [Buzzards Bay Coalition](#). “Join the Coalition’s Commonwealth Corps and AmeriCorps MassLIFT members in a morning of service along the Weweantic River. You’ll help us to make this place even more special by picking up litter and performing trail maintenance. Come ready to get down and dirty! Trash bags will be provided. Please bring your own gloves and dress appropriately.” Meet at the [Horseshoe Mill](#) property (the parking lot at the end of Station Street), Bourne. While there is no cost for this event, pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 999-6363 ext. 219 to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Rain Garden Workshop and Celebration*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by (and taking place at) the [Cape Cod Museum of Natural History](#), 869 Main Street (Route 6A), in Brewster. “A Rain Garden is a garden designed to provide an important function, collecting and purifying rainfall and storm water runoff. A Rain Garden can be as simple as a small garden depression that accepts rainwater from the downspout of a house, to a more sophisticated engineered design that treats storm water from a roadway or parking lot. In all cases, the plants in the Rain Garden provide the important functions of moisture uptake and removal of nutrients including nitrogen and phosphorus. A Rain Garden can be an attractive landscape feature on its own or part of a larger landscape design, either highly managed or left to naturalize. A Rain Garden, depending on the plants selected, may also serve to support wildlife. Rain Gardens add beauty to an area and provide bird, bee and butterfly habitats. The Museum has been planning a rain garden for the past year and is ready to complete it. Amanda Sloan, our rain garden designer, will discuss the design, construction and environmental impacts of the Museum’s rain garden. Participants will help us finish the final plantings and celebrate with cake.” Fee: \$10. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 896-3867 ext. 133 to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “*Topsfield Trail*” birding walk, 6:00 AM (!) – 9:00 AM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Joppa Flats Education Center](#). “The Topsfield Linear Common begins near Topsfield Center, crosses Route 1, wends its way along the Ipswich River and through a wetland swamp, then joins the Wenham section of the Border to Boston Trail System. An early start will allow us time to look for bird activity and to enjoy the quiet surroundings of the trail before the joggers and cyclists are even out of their beds.” Fee: Adults \$18/members, \$21/non-members. Please bring binoculars, snacks, and water, and wear comfortable walking shoes. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “*The Hills of Topsfield*” birding walk, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon’s [Joppa Flats Education Center](#). “Even though it’s only five minutes from Route 1 and Interstate 95, this pastoral venue will seem as if it’s a world away. We’ll leave the vans behind and follow a three-mile loop through the gently rolling hills of Topsfield. Our pace will be leisurely, giving us time to enjoy the beauty of the rural landscape as we look and listen for birds. We will walk along sections of the beautiful Ipswich River and past open farm fields. Plan to see and hear warblers, eastern bluebirds, raptors, and much more. In our fast-paced world, this will be a real treat. Come along and find out what a bird walk is all about!” Fee: Adults \$24/members, \$28/non-members. Please bring binoculars, snacks, and water, and wear comfortable walking shoes. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “*Picnic on Perkins Island*” canoe trip, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#) (IRWS). “Join us for a leisurely paddle up the Ipswich River and enjoy your lunch on Perkins Island. Thanks to an intrepid group of Boy Scouts, we now have comfortable picnic tables so we can sit together and enjoy our meal. This is a beautiful island with towering pines. We’ll look for turtles in the backwaters and discover other river animals.” Fee: Adults \$16/members, \$18/non-members; Children (5-18): \$12/members, \$14/non-members. Meet in front of the IRWS canoe kiosk. Canoes, paddling gear and basic canoeing instruction are provided. Please pack your lunch in a cooler or waterproof container. Registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – RACE BROOK (HOUSATONIC WATERSHED) – *Appalachian Trail Hike*, Race Brook Falls to Jug End Road (AT Series #2), Sheffield to Egremont, sponsored by the [Berkshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “This 7-mile, strenuous hike will take us by Race Brook Falls to the summit of Mt. Everett, with views of Mt. Greylock, the Catskills, and the Housatonic River Valley. Bring snacks/trail lunch/ plenty of fluids. Sturdy hiking boots and trekking poles recommended.” Pre-registration is required: click [here](#) or contact registrar Debi Garlick [(413) 773-0361 (best time to call: 7-9 PM) or debigarlick@yahoo.com] or trip leader Grace Ferrante [mgferrante@yahoo.com] to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Housatonic Riverbank Cleanup*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Pittsfield, co-sponsored by the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT) and the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Meet at Wahconah Park ([105 Wahconah St, Pittsfield](#)). “The idea of this spring cleanup is to get some of the trash from over the winter off the banks before the vegetation comes out and BEFORE it gets into the river. We will spread out and clean at Wahconah Park and other locations depending on how many volunteers we get. We will fan out from here to tackle the places on the river most in need of a cleanup. A picnic lunch, snacks, work gloves and trash bags are provided. **What YOU should bring:** A refillable water bottle, sunscreen, insect repellent - wear old clothes and sturdy footwear, you will get wet and dirty! Old sneakers, rubber boots - although the plan is NOT to go in the water. Long pants and long sleeves will avoid insect bites and scratches from walking through brush. Click [here](#) for more info or to register, please contact Jane at BEAT [jane@thebeatnews.org or (413) 230-7321] or Alison at HVA [adixon@hvatoday.org or (413) 394-9796.]”

May 3 (Saturday) – SOUTH RIVER (DEERFIELD WATERSHED) – *Conway Station and Polly's Bridge Hiking Tour*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Conway, co-sponsored by the [Pioneer Valley Institute](#) and the [Deerfield River Watershed Association](#). “This site was important as the junction of the Conway Street Railway serving the industries of Conway by trolley to the New Haven Railroad and later the Boston and Maine Railroad. To make all this happen, the New Haven Railroad built a 550-foot long bridge 160 feet above the South River and the trolley, then built a lower and shorter bridge over the Deerfield River. Both of these bridges are long gone but pictures will be available to see. There is now a new pedestrian bridge over the South River only 30 feet above the river, using the piers of the high bridge. There will be as much hiking as people wish to do along the [Mahican-Mohawk Trail](#), which uses the old railroad road bed, and a hike down to the dam which supplied electricity for the trolley.” Meet at the [Big Y parking lot in Greenfield](#) to carpool to the walk location. Click [here](#) or contact Cynthia Herbert at pvi@gcc.mass.edu for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – “*Windsor Bush Discovery*” hike, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Windsor, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Connecticut River Wildlife Sanctuaries](#). “Join historian Mike Whalen for an adventurous natural and cultural history hike in the mysterious hills of the Windsor Bush. On this moderate-difficult trek through highland forest, we'll explore an amazing deep-river gorge, abundant wildlife habitat, and the cultural legacy of 19th-century farms. The ‘Bush’ holds many secrets, and we'll discover such fascinating topics as the making of spruce-oil from local trees and haunting tales of the ‘Windigo’.” Fee: Adults \$12/members, \$16/non-members. Bring a lunch and wear sturdy, waterproof shoes. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – TEN MILE RIVER – *River Cleanup in Attleboro*, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM, with the [Ten Mile River Watershed Council](#) as one of the participating organizations. Click [here](#) or contact [Keith Gonsalves](#) at ktggroup@aol.com for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – POUTWATER POND (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Poutwater Pond and Bog exploration*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM in Holden, sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#). “The DCR Watershed Rangers are leading a hike to [Poutwater Pond and Bog](#), one of the most unique habitats in the Wachusett Watershed. Join the Rangers for an interpretive hike which will highlight some of the rare and protected plant species. This site was designated as a [National Natural Landmark](#) to be preserved and protected for future generations.” Meet at [Stillwater Farm, Route 140 in Sterling](#), for the quick trip to the Pond; click [here](#) for more info.

May 3 (Saturday) – SUDBURY RIVER – *Paddle to Cedar Swamp Pond*, Hopkinton and Westborough, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the [Sudbury Valley Trustees](#) (SVT). Enjoy this upstream paddle to where the Sudbury River begins: Cedar Swamp Pond. Twist and turn through the narrow stretches of the Sudbury, leading you to the breathtaking headwaters. Participants must provide their own boat and proper paddling equipment. Smaller boats are recommended. This program is for experienced paddlers only. The paddle begins/ends at the Fruit Street bridge in Hopkinton (see [map](#)). Fee: free for SVT Members, \$10/person for others. Call (978) 443-5588 or click [here](#) for more info and [here](#) to register.

May 3 (Saturday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Walk the Neponset River Greenway to Milton Hill*, 9:30 AM – 12:15 PM, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “A 5-mile walk along the Neponset River to Hutchinson Field. Bring a snack. Meet at the [Hallet Street entrance to Pope John Paul II Park](#). From Route 93N, take exit 11 (11B from Route 93S) to Granite Avenue, north over Neponset River, immediate right on Hilltop Street, right under bridge into parking lot. E-mail if severe weather. No dogs; non-AMC members \$1.” While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Mike Tuohey [breadcrumbs60@gmail.com] for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – MILLERS RIVER – *Canoe trip*, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, co-sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary](#), the [Millers River Watershed Council](#) and the [Massachusetts Watershed Coalition](#). “Join us for a 6-mile, downstream trip on the scenic and historic Millers River. This gentle stretch of river running between Athol and Orange is suitable for beginner paddlers”. Fee: Adults \$12/member, \$18/non-member. Mass. Audubon will provide Canoes, PFDs, and paddles for participants. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 464-2712 to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Groton Greenway Walk at Fitch's Bridge*, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM in Groton, sponsored by the [Nashua River Watershed Association](#) (NRWA). “The NRWA invites the public to explore Groton's greenway on the west side of the Nashua River beginning at Fitch's Bridge. Now that the new Fitch's Bridge is open for pedestrian traffic the trails on the west side of Nashua River are more accessible. The walk will feature the trail that passes by the Johnston Conservation Area to the Groton Senior Center and back again. This three mile walk is relatively flat but the terrain is uneven. Your guide will be NRWA's Land Programs and Outreach Director, Al Futterman. This walk is free and open to the public. Parking is available on either side of Fitch's Bridge, the meet up point for this walk, which can be reached by Fitch's Bridge Road on the east side of the river off of Rt. 119, and on the west side of the river off of Pepperell Road. [View a Google Map and directions](#). Click [here](#) or contact Al Futterman [(978) 448-0299 or alfutterman@NashuaRiverWatershed.org] for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – SUDBURY and ASSABET RIVERS – *“A River Runs Through It” bike ride*, 9:30 AM start, sponsored by the [Charles River Wheelmen](#). “We'll wind our way through beautiful rolling wooded countryside west of Boston, with views of the Sudbury and Assabet River plains. All rides (the [28 Mile](#), [49 Mile](#), or [64 Mile](#) option) pass through Concord, Sudbury, Wayland, and Lincoln; the 49-mile ride includes Stow and Hudson and a few hills. There is a scenic 64-mile option that adds Boxborough, Acton, and a few more hills.” The bike ride starts at the Alcott Elementary School, 93 Laurel Street, Concord ([map](#)). Click [here](#) or contact the ride leaders [[Jim Pearl](#) (781-275-8603), [Steve Kolek](#) (781-999-4034), [Nadina Raudales](#)] for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Trail walk at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary* in Topsfield, 1:30 PM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Enjoy a two-hour hike through the beautiful fields, forest, and wetlands of [Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). Meet at 1:30 PM in the Sanctuary parking lot (there is a small parking fee for non-Mass. Audubon members). While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Faith Evans [(978) 356-2098, fevans27@aol.com] for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – DEERFIELD RIVER WATERSHED – *“Botany at Bear Swamp” walk*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, at The Trustees of Reservations' [Bear Swamp Reservation](#) in Ashfield. “Come explore this special place in a rich, mesic forest filled with masses of spring ephemerals including Dutchman's Breeches, Spring-beauty, Bishops Cap, and Trilliums, among other interesting plants found here. The aptly named Fern Glade Trail passes through carpets of ferns and wildflowers. We will check out the spring awakening of the trees and other signs of spring. This hike is mainly moderate with some strenuous spots. Wear water resistant boots and bring bug spray, field guides, rain gear (if needed), and a bag lunch”. Space is limited; e-mail botanist Nancy Goodman at wildeyes@rcn.com to register. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – PRINCE RIVER (CHICOPEE WATERSHED) – *BioBlitz at the Prince River Preserve* in Barre, sponsored by the [East Quabbin Land Trust](#). “Join professional naturalists at a new EQLT Preserve to document all the living creatures we can find on this 67-acre property. Early in spring should be good for migrating birds and flowering spring plants, but who knows! With the late spring the timing may be off. Regardless, we’ll document what we see. Come get to know the property and help us learn more about the land.” The Prince River Preserve is located to the east of Old Reservoir, off Flaherty Road. Click [here](#), write to Caren at ccaljouw@eqlt.org, or call (413) 477-8229 for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Clamming on the North River*, 8:00 AM start at [North River Marine](#) in Scituate, sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#). “This is your opportunity to go clamming before the shellfish beds close later in May. You will be transported by boat out to the flats. Participants must have a Scituate shellfish permit and their own shellfishing equipment. Space is limited, so sign up soon!” Click [here](#) or call (781) 659-8168 to sign up or for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – MUDDY RIVER (CHARLES WATERSHED) – *A Walk with Mr. Olmsted through the Back Bay Fens*, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM in Boston, sponsored by the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. “See the Back Bay Fens through the eyes of the man who designed and built it. Join Frederick Law Olmsted, as portrayed by Gerry Wright, and an Emerald Necklace docent as they lead a walk through the historic landscape of the Fens. Learn how Mr. Olmsted transformed the area once described as ‘the foulest marsh and muddy flats to be found anywhere in Massachusetts’ into the first link in his chain of parks we know today as the Emerald Necklace. Hear the story of a remarkable life from the man himself. Meet your guide at the [Shattuck Visitor Center, 125 The Fenway](#). This event is free and open to the public; click [here](#) or contact Jeanie Knox [jeanine@emeraldnecklace.org or (617) 522-2700] for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Morning Bird Walk at Fowl Meadow*, 6:00 AM (!) start, sponsored by the [South Shore Bird Club](#). “We will walk a few miles on flat, possibly muddy terrain. Habitat is forested floodplain/swamp with remnant marsh. We should see many ‘first of the season’ birds on this trip. This traditional area has produced a good number and variety of migrants and summer residents, from rails & shorebirds through thrushes and warblers.” Meet at the small parking area on Brush Hill Road, close to the intersection with the Neponset Valley Parkway (see [map](#)). Click [here](#) or contact leader Vin Zollo at vzollo1@yahoo.com for more info.

May 4 (Sunday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – *“Botanical Legacy of Estabrook Woods”* field trip, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM in Concord, sponsored by the [New England Wild Flower Society](#). “Join Concord, MA, naturalist [Cherrie Corey](#) for an exploration of the rich botanical history of the 1,200-acre Estabrook Woods, the largest contiguous, undeveloped woodland tract in suburban Boston. This glacially carved landscape of mature woodlands, swamplands, and ponds supports locally rare plants, exemplary natural communities, and many layers of historic significance... This moderate-to-strenuous walk will cover about 3.5 miles of trails. Water-resistant hiking boots are recommended, as you will ford several streams.” Fee: \$28/members, \$35/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (508) 877-7630 ext. 3303 to register or for more info.

May 5 (Monday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *“Walkin’ the Watershed” Workshop*, sponsored by the [Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee](#). Click [here](#) or contact Meredyth Babcock at (413) 623-2070 or volunteer@westfieldriverwildscenic.org to sign up or for more info.

May 5 (Monday) – LITTLE RIVER and ALEWIFE BROOK (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – *Alewife Reservation Constructed Wetland* workshop, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Cambridge, sponsored by the [Ecological Landscape Alliance](#). The newly-installed constructed wetland within the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Alewife Reservation](#) was designed to reduce adverse water quality and quantity impacts of wet-weather stormwater discharges into the Little River while enhancing ecological diversity and functionality. Join tour guides Duke Bitsko and Miles Connors to learn about this impressive wetland system that was designed for stormwater separation and to meet the ecological and recreational objectives for the Alewife Brook. Click [here](#) to register and [here](#) for more info.

May 5 (Monday) – WEKEPEKE BROOK (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Presentation on the Wekepeke Watershed Restoration Initiative* by Joe Rogers of the [Rushing Rivers Institute](#), and sponsored by the [Central Massachusetts Chapter of Trout Unlimited](#). The focus of this meeting will be on Phase 2 of the [Wekepeke Watershed Restoration Initiative](#), which looks to open up several more miles of Native Brook Trout water and re-connect to cold water springs and provide a year round supply of cold water to Wekepeke Brook and its native inhabitants. The meeting begins at 6:30 PM and will take place at the Auburn Sportsman's Club, 50 Elm St #A, in Auburn. Click [here](#) or contact Nicholas Comeau [nmcomeau@gmail.com] for more info.

May 6 (Tuesday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *River cleanup*, 1:45 PM – 6:00 PM in Lowell, coordinated by the [Clean River Project](#) in partnership with [Middlesex Community College](#) and the [Gulf of Maine Institute](#). Meet in the lobby of the City Building at 1:45 PM, or at 2:00 PM or later at the [Route 38 \(aka Hunt's Falls\) bridge](#) over the Merrimack River, as the cleanup will focus on that area. Click [here](#) to download the flyer with more details about the event, or contact Diane Lauber [dianelauber@comcast.net] for more info.

May 6 (Tuesday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *"Oyster Reefs for Westport?" talk*, 12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM at the [Westport Public Library](#), sponsored by the [Westport River Watershed Alliance](#) (WRWA). "The WRWA has invited Curt Felix, an expert on oyster cultivation, to speak about Wellfleet's oyster reef building project. This could be an option to help restore the East Branch of the Westport River. The presentation is endorsed by the Westport Shellfish Advisory Board and Gary Sherman, the Westport Shellfish Constable. The Town of Wellfleet used oyster shells to build oyster reefs and grow oysters in their nitrogen-polluted harbors. Too much nitrogen in salt water stimulates the growth of chlorophyll and algae that block sunlight from the bottom of estuaries. When this happens, eelgrass and other inhabitants of a normal, healthy salt water ecosystem die off. The Mass. Estuaries Project's research has found this to be the problem with the East Branch of the Westport River. Wellfleet found that oysters and their reefs are surprisingly effective at mitigating the nitrogen problem. Find out how by attending the talk, which is free to the public. Those who RSVP by calling the WRWA [(508) 636-3016] will be provided lunch at the meeting." Space is limited to 60 people, however, so your RSVP before the event is strongly recommended.

May 6, 7 or 8 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) – CHICOPEE RIVER – *Revive the Chicopee River Watershed Council* meetings, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM at several locations (see below). While the [Chicopee River basin](#) (which includes the Quaboag, Swift and Ware River watersheds) is the largest river system located entirely within Massachusetts, it currently has no active watershed organization. A series of gatherings has been organized to enable interested folks to discuss how we can revive an active organization to care for and enjoy the natural beauty of this four-river system. You are invited to attend any of the meetings scheduled for this purpose: **Tuesday, May 6** at the [Hubbard Memorial Library in Ludlow](#); **Wednesday May 7** at the [Gilbertville Public Library](#) (Rte 32 in Gilbertville near the Hardwick Town Offices); or **Thursday May 8** at the [West Brookfield Town Hall](#) (Selectmen's Office - lower level), off of Main St (aka Rte. 9). Click [here](#) or contact Keith Davies at chicopeewatershed@gmail.com for more info.

May 7 (Wednesday) – MANHAN, MILL, WESTFIELD and FARMINGTON RIVERS – *Fill the Gap in the Farmington Canal Greenway Trail*, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in Easthampton. "Come to the [Tandem Bagel Company](#) to meet with other trail groups (Friends of the Manhan Trail, Friends of Westfield's Columbia Greenway Rail Trail, the Town of Southamptons Greenway Committee, and the Plainville Greenway Alliance) for food and discussion about the present status of the [Farmington Canal Greenway Trail](#) (as it's largely known in Connecticut) and how the remaining gaps will be closed. For more details and to sign up, go to [Fill-the-Gap](#) Event. Sign up quickly, as there is capacity for only 50 people at Tandem." Click [here](#) or contact Craig Della Penna [(413) 575-2277, craig@masscentralrailtrail.org] for more info.

May 7 (Wednesday) – CHARLES and WESTFIELD WATERSHEDS – *"Managing Invasives: From Garlic Mustard Pulls to Tupperweed Parties"*, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, a free presentation at the [Cambridge Public Library](#), sponsored by [Grow Native Massachusetts](#). "The cooperative management of invasive species requires creative new approaches- whether working with your neighbors or navigating town hall. Dr. Julie Richburg, Regional Ecologist for The Trustees of Reservations and founder and Chair of the [Westfield River](#)

[Watershed Invasive Species Partnership](#) (WISP), will explore with us innovative ways to start grassroots control efforts, discussing effective outreach methods and the importance of public education. She will describe Westfield's effective organizational collaboration and coordinated control methods as well as several other town-wide efforts." Click [here](#) for more info.

May 7 (Wednesday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Evening Paddle for Rails*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's [Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). "The freshwater marsh known as Bunker Meadows can be a magical place for viewing and listening to breeding wetland birds. Usually, the only opportunity visitors have to observe Virginia rails, sora rails, or pied-billed grebes is from a distant observation tower or boardwalk. On this night, we'll venture into the marsh by canoe for close-up views of these amazing birds. Other birds we are likely to encounter include the marsh wren, swamp sparrow, wood duck, and many more." Fee: \$15/members, \$18/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 7 – June 15 (Wednesdays – Sundays) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Robert E. Barrett Fishlift open for public viewing*, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, sponsored by the [Holyoke Gas and Electric Department](#) (HG&E). "Each spring when the shadblow blooms, New Englanders have the opportunity to view an incredible natural phenomenon. American Shad, Sea Lamprey, Atlantic Salmon and other anadromous fish swim up the Connecticut River as they begin their annual spring migration. Driven by their evolutionary instincts, adult fish return to spawn in the rivers of their birth. The fishlift at HG&E's Robert E. Barrett Fishway helps migrating fish over the dam. It was the first and most successful fish lift on the Atlantic coast. It consists of two elevators or 'lifts' which carry migrating fish up and over the Holyoke dam. Visitors can watch the lifts in action from an observation deck overlooking the Connecticut River. After the fish are lifted, visitors can witness their migration as they swim by the viewing windows and continue their upriver journey. The Fishway is staffed by knowledgeable and friendly guides who are available to share information about anadromous fish and restoration efforts." Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more info.

May 8 (Thursday) – MASHPEE RIVER – (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Mashpee River* in Mashpee, 10:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). "Paddle through the Mashpee Woodlands Conservation Area, perhaps seeing nesting marsh wrens and red winged blackbirds along the shoreline and always osprey overhead. It is a beautiful paddle, end to end." Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips, and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 8 (Thursday) – SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *"Climate Change Impacts on Ecosystem Services and Approaches to Adaptation"* lecture, 7:00 PM start, part of the ["Climate Change in Your Backyard"](#) lecture series, co-sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) (NSRWA) and the [Jones River Watershed Association](#) (JRWA). Eric Walberg, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, will provide an overview of climate change impacts on ecosystem services and approaches to adaptation. Two local case studies of the Beaver Dam Brook and Red Brook watersheds will be used in a discussion of the challenges, opportunities and trade-offs that are inherent in adapting to a rapidly changing climate. The lecture takes place at the JRWA's headquarters, [Jones River Landing](#), 55 Landing Road in Kingston. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 8 (Thursday) – GREAT WENHAM SWAMP (IPSWICH WATERSHED) – *"Spring Birds of Wenham's Rail Trail"* walk, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM in Wenham, sponsored by Mass. Audubon's [Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). "Join Ipswich River Naturalist [Scott Santino](#) for a walk along the Wenham-Danvers section of the Border-to-Boston Rail Trail, part of which is in Mass Audubon's Great Wenham Swamp property. We'll explore the swamp walk in Danvers, an extended boardwalk providing access to birds setting up territory in beaver-enhanced wetlands. This can be peak migration time for songbirds, and we'll have fun sorting out warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and blackbirds. Meet at the Rail Trail roadside parking lot on Route 97 in Wenham. While this walk is free, you are requested to pre-register by calling the Sanctuary at (978) 887-9264. "Bring binoculars if you have them (we'll also bring extra pairs) and dress for the weather. Good footwear is advised." Click [here](#) for more info.

May 8 (Thursday) – QUINEBAUG WATERSHED – “A Celebration of the Nature of Central Massachusetts” slide presentation, 7:45 PM start in Charlton, sponsored by [The Bird Store and More](#), with the assistance of the [Opacum Land Trust](#). Birders/naturalists Mark Lynch and Sheila Carroll will present a personal take on the discoveries of birds, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, dragonflies and plants that they have enjoyed in this under-appreciated part of the state. All the images to be shown were taken by the speakers in central Massachusetts. The show will take place at the Overlook Performing Arts Center, [88 Masonic Home Road](#) in Charlton. Tickets are \$5/each and are available at [The Bird Store and More](#) (508-347-BIRD) in Sturbridge. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 8 (Thursday) – NORTH RIVER (DEERFIELD WATERSHED) – “The Water Resources of Colrain”, 7:30 PM start, sponsored by the Colrain Historical Society. “Professor (Emeritus) Richard Little will talk about the water resources and geological history of Colrain and surroundings. From colliding continents to advancing and retreating glaciers, Colrain has a diverse and exciting geologic heritage.” The talk takes place in the Stacy Carriage Barn behind the Pitt House on Main Street. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 9 (Friday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Birding by Canoe*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon’s [Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries](#). “Enjoy canoeing and birding? Why not blend the two?! Naturalist/ Ecological Manager David McLain will lead this evening canoe/birding adventure into the [Arcadia marsh](#). We will be looking for early migrants such as eastern phoebes, tree swallows, and great blue herons. We will also look for our resident bald eagles. Of course we’ll look at a few vernal wildflowers along the way, and keep our eyes peeled for muskrats, beavers, and otters. This will be an easy paddle; however, prior canoe experience is required.” Fee: \$15/members, \$20/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 9-11 (Friday-Sunday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – *Salt Marsh and Songbirds Eco-Bike Adventure*, sponsored by [Great Freedom Adventures](#). Explore the vast richness of Massachusetts’ [Great Marsh](#) and national wildlife refuges on this three-day, guided bike tour through the North Shore. Discover a destination world-famous for nature study, encompassing thousands of acres of salt marsh, one of the most productive ecosystems on the planet. The eco-bike tours are timed to coincide with the return of songbirds to one of the finest bird-watching destinations in the eastern United States and the bloom of colorful native azaleas and rhododendrons. Click [here](#) or call (508) 545-1864 for more info. [This same trip is also offered the weekends of May 26-28 and June 15-17.]

[>return to top of document](#)

May 10 – May 16

May 10 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD WATERSHED – *South Hawley Ghost Town Hike*, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon’s Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries. “Join historian Mike Whalen on a rediscovery of the long-forgotten ghost village of South Hawley. Located deep in the Highland forest of southwestern Franklin County, this area was once a thriving farming community of independent pioneers that prospered along a bustling stage road. Today, all that remains are the cellar holes and scattered remnants of a deserted era. This 4-mile moderate hike will explore the archaeology, culture, and dramatic transformation of South Hawley’s landscape. Springtime flora and extensive beaver habitat will also highlight the excursion.” Fee: Adults \$15/members, \$20/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – HOOSIC RIVER – *River Walk Tour* in North Adams, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Hoosic River Revival](#). This free, guided walk along the Hoosic River takes about an hour. Meet at the [MassMoCA Parking Lot, Marshall Street, in North Adams](#). Click [here](#), call (413) 212-2996 or write to info@hoosicriverrevival.org for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – MILL RIVER (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – “Hidden Mill River” walk in Northampton, sponsored by the [Mill River Greenway Initiative](#). “Wayne Feiden will talk about planning for the future of this section of town through which the former river used to run, and John Sinton will focus on historical floods, going back to the 17th century and the Mill River’s first diversion in 1710.” Click [here](#) to sign up or for more info, and [here](#) to see a listing of other River Walk events.

May 10 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – 24th Annual Ducky Wucky River Race, 4:30 PM at the [Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge](#) paddler access area at the end of Still River Depot Road, off Route 110, Harvard, sponsored by (and benefiting) the [Rotary Club of Ayer, Harvard, Shirley and Devens](#). Grand prize of dinner for two anywhere in the world, including airfare and two nights’ hotel. The race is preceded by a full day of activities at the [Apple Blossom Festival](#). Click [here](#) for more info, including [how to “buy” a duck](#), as well as more details on the race and other activities taking place that day.

May 10 (Saturday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – Quinebaug Quickwater river paddle, Southbridge, MA – Fabyan, CT, sponsored by the [Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “A mid-morning departure paddle includes quickwater and even level 1 whitewater depending on flow volume which varies according to recent rain. There is also flatwater. There are obstacles to avoid including downed trees which make for a narrow passage. If you get tangled in the branches instead you will get wet. You have to be a confident paddler, no beginners please, but this could also be your introduction to moving water. There is one portage of 100-200 feet around a dam and some hauling at the takeout. PFDs must be worn. Bring a liter of water and lunch. Dress appropriately for the weather plus bring an extra layer and a change of clothes in a dry bag. Water shoes are recommended as is a helmet - the latter not to alarm but merely out of an abundance of caution.” Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or contact trip leader David Elliott [(508) 954-0079 (best time to call: Before 9:00 PM)] to sign up for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – “Wellesley Wander” Walk, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. A 5-6-mile circuit, including the Wellesley College greenhouses and campus, Lake Waban and Charles River, as well as brooks and aqueducts. Bring lunch. Meet at Wellesley College Greenhouses (Route 16W from Wellesley Center to campus entrance; right into campus, right to East Campus/Science Center and parking lot). Rain cancels. No dogs. Non-AMC members \$1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Robert Winters [Robert@rwinters.com] for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “Riverbend to Julia Bird” Tree Identification Walk, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM in Ipswich, co-sponsored by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#) (IRWA) and the [Essex County Trail Association](#) (ECTA). The walk begins and ends at IRWA’s headquarters at [Riverbend](#) (143 County Road, Ipswich). ECTA Board Members Joe Sandulli and Dan Mayer will lead a guided tree identification walk going from there to [Essex County Greenbelt’s Julia Bird Reservation](#). During the walk, Joe and Dan will point out significant riparian and upland trees and their notable characteristics for identification. Leashed dogs are allowed. Contact Cynthia at cingelfinger@ipswichriver.org or call (978) 412-8200 to sign up or for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – BUNGAY RIVER (TEN MILE WATERSHED) – Bungay River flatwater paddle, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Attleboro, sponsored by the [Ten Mile River Watershed Council](#). An up-stream and back paddle on a scenic, small, winding river, flowing through an undeveloped landscape. Meet at the [parking lot on Holden St.](#) Click [here](#) or contact [Keith Gonsalves](#) at ktggroup@aol.com for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – QUIVETT CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – Paddle Quivett Creek from Paines Beach, Brewster, 10:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). “We’ll paddle from Paines Creek Beach and hug the shore going west to the mouth of Quivett Creek. As we make our way up this wonderful creek, we’ll be surrounded by extensive marsh. Unlike Scorton Creek and Chase Garden, where the reeds and grasses are too tall to see over, the vegetation along Quivett Creek

allows distant views at high tide”. Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips, and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 10 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – “Pollinator Plant Out” at The Trustees of Reservations’ [Long Point Wildlife Refuge](#), 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in West Tisbury. “Interested in gardening, native plant species, and habitat restoration on Martha’s Vineyard? Then volunteer with The Trustees for our native flora plant out and construction of pollinator boxes! We’ll be replanting endangered plants, such as New England Blazing Star and Orange Milkweed, at Long Point after germinating their seeds over the winter. Additionally, pollinator boxes will be built and installed to encourage the pollination and reproduction of these flowers by native bee species.” Click [here](#) or call (508) 693-7662 for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – “Birding for Beginners” walk, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM at the [Banks Street Bogs Nature Preserve](#), sponsored by the [Harwich Conservation Trust](#). “Explore conserved land in Harwich and celebrate spring with a walk led by a naturalist from Mass Audubon’s Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Do you enjoy wildlife and nature, but wouldn’t consider yourself a ‘birder’? We’ll introduce you to the basic skills and pleasures of birdwatching. You will learn how to adjust your binoculars, use your field guide, and identify common Cape Cod birds. We’ll also introduce some of the interesting findings of Mass Audubon’s landmark State of the Birds report, discuss connections between birds and other wildlife, talk about what global climate change means for Cape Cod birds, and answer your questions about all of the wildlife we see. All ages are welcome. Please bring binoculars and field guides if you have them; we will have some to share. Please meet at the [Trailhead Parking](#) at least five minutes before the program is scheduled to begin. While the walk is free, please register in advance by emailing hctwalks@gmail.com or calling HCT at (508) 432-3997 and pressing 4. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – Birding in the Bioreserve, 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). Large, unfragmented areas like the [Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve](#) support an array of warblers and other interior forest birds such the wood thrush, ovenbird, and scarlet tanager. Many of these unique birds pass through the area for only a few weeks each spring on their way north. Join Lynn Abbey of the [Paskamansett Bird Club](#) at the height of the spring migration. Bring binoculars. Meet at the Watuppa Reservation Headquarters, 2929 Blossom Rd. in Fall River. Click [here](#) or call (508) 636-4693 ext.103 for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – Celebrate Migratory Bird Day, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the [Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies](#) in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the [Westport River Watershed Alliance](#) and supported by a grant from the [Southeastern Massachusetts Environmental Education Alliance](#) (SEEAL). “[International Migratory Bird Day](#) is an annual event to celebrate and support migratory bird conservation. The theme for IMBD 2014 is Why Birds Matter. Not everyone is aware of the diversity of birds around the world, the amazing migrations some take, and the phenomenal range of behaviors, plumages, and songs they exhibit. International Migratory Bird Day 2014 shares the many ways in which birds matter to the earth, to ecosystems, and of course, to us. Learn more about our local birds and be amazed as we explore amazing facts about migration while enjoying a free, fun, family event. Visitors will be able to learn to identify local birds, observe wild birds in their habitats, interact with live birds of prey, march in our wild bird parade, and participate in an open discussion with entertaining guest speaker Ray Brown as he discusses the ‘Magic of Migration’.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – CANOE RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – Open House and Canoe River Awareness Day, 10:00AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the Town of Foxborough Water Department and the [Canoe River Aquifer Awareness Committee](#) (CRAAC). This year’s event will be held at the [Foxborough Water Department’s new Water Treatment Facility on Lamson Road, off of Oak Street](#). Click [here](#) or call (508) 543-1209 for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – NEMASKET RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Annual Canoe Race*, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Middleborough Parks Department](#). The race begins at [Old Bridge Street](#) in Lakeville and follows a 4.5-mile course downstream (north) to the finish line at [Oliver Mill Park](#) in Middleborough. Registration is \$20/boat in advance and \$30/boat the day of the race. (Rain date is Saturday, May 17.) Click [here](#) or contact Mr. Fran Cass at (508) 946-2440 or fcass@middleborough.com for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – NEPONSET RIVER – “*Sweet History Stroll*” along the Neponset River, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM in Milton and Dorchester Lower Mills, sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#) (DCR) and the Dorchester Historical Society. “What do chocolate and the Neponset River have in common? Join a DCR Park Ranger and Dorchester Historical Society President Earl Taylor on a scenic stroll in Milton and Dorchester Lower Mills to find out. We’ll explore the former Baker Chocolate Factory site and learn about the sweet history of Lower Mills as part of Historic Preservation Month in Massachusetts. We’ll end our tour at the Baker Chocolate Artist Lofts and learn about the DCR’s Historic Curatorship program.” Meet at the public parking lot in Milton Lower Mills, beside the Milton Yacht Club at 36 Wharf Street in Milton. As parking is limited, public transportation is encouraged via the [Milton Station](#) of the MBTA Mattapan High Speed Line. For ages 10 and up; click [here](#) for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Essex River Race*, sponsored by the [Cape Ann Rowing Club](#). Registration begins at 8:00 AM; the first race heat sets off at 10:00 AM. The Essex River Race is a 5.5-mile, open water event starting at the Essex River Bridge at Route 133 in Essex, out behind the barrier beaches of Ipswich and back. Participants row or paddle small boats through one of the most scenic tidal areas in New England. Occasionally the water can be very rough, with strong winds and currents. Click [here](#) for an overview of the race and [here](#) to participate, or contact [Suzanne Sweeney](#) for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Birding Paddle Trip through Wenham Swamp*, start time TBD, sponsored by the [Essex County Ornithological Society](#) (ECOC). “Participate in the 108th ECOC birding trip down the Ipswich River! Arguably the oldest uninterrupted bird-count in the world, this event is timed to get the best views of birds before full leaf-out, but late enough in the season to get better weather for paddling.” Paddle the Wenham Swamp section of the Ipswich River while birding with the experts at the height of warbler migration! Put in is at Route 97/High Street in Topsfield, and take out is at Willowdale Meadows, on Topsfield Road near Bradley Palmer State Park. Click [here](#) or contact event coordinator Robert Buchsbaum [(978) 927-1122 [rbuchsbaum@massaudubon.org]] for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Canoeing for Beginners*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Join us for the afternoon to learn or brush up on basic paddling strokes such as the forward and back paddle, sweep, draw, and j-stroke. Learning how to make these strokes correctly will enable you to control your canoe with far less effort. We’ll practice on land and in the backwaters, and then canoe the river to enjoy the sights and sounds of a spring afternoon.” Fee: \$15/members, \$18/non-members. “Youth aged 12-17 years old are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. We will provide canoes, paddles, and PFDs.” Click [here](#) or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Tea House Open House*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM at [Maudslay State Park](#) in Newburyport, sponsored by the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). “Hosted by Park Interpreter Donna Sudak and part of [DCR’s celebration of May as Preservation Month](#), come view the Tea House, originally constructed by the Moseley family for observing tennis matches on the nearby courts. The house sits atop a ridge overlooking the Merrimack River, and ideal spot for sunsets. The property is slated for rehabilitation under the Historic Curatorship program. For all ages. Rain or shine; heavy rain cancels. Meet at the [Visitors Center](#). Walk is approximately one mile, moderate difficulty. Hot tea will be available.”

May 10 (Saturday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Monthly Public Paddle in Bedford*, 9:00 AM – 12:00

Noon, sponsored by the [Shawsheen River Watershed Association](#). “We hope (weather and water dependent) to do a section of the river in the upper Shawsheen that we haven’t done in a long time, picking up litter and trash on the way, starting in Bedford.” Click [here](#) or write to ShawsheenRiver@gmail.com for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – STILL RIVER (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Morning bird walk* in Harvard, sponsored by the [Friends of the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge](#). “Come look for breeding populations of migratory birds, but also learn about our resident birds at the [Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge](#). Naturalists Dick and Peggy Knowlton will again be our leaders. It is not uncommon for about 38 different species of birds to be observed during our spring walks! Bring your binoculars. Birders of all levels are welcome. We’ll walk at a casual pace. There might be some biting insects. Meet at the Oxbow Refuge parking lot at the end of Still River Depot Road in Harvard. Please, pre-register by calling Rona at (978) 779-2259 or via e-mail at ada.friendsoftheoxbownwr@gmail.com.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 10 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *“Moonlight Canoe Tour” in Newton/Auburndale*, 7:00 PM start, offered by [Charles River Canoe and Kayak](#). “Dusk is a magical time to be on the water, so what could be more blissful than paddling a canoe by moonlight? We push off as the sun sets for an evening of relaxation, good food, and conversation. Our [boathouse in Newton](#), located on the flatwater [Lakes District of the Charles](#), is the perfect location for this opportunity to unwind. As the moon rises to light our way, we’ll watch herons browsing along the banks, river otters fishing for their last meal of the day, and other wildlife settling in for the night. Before and during your time on the water, your guide will share the rich history of the area, including the Canoe Clubs, Norumbega Park and the Totem Pole Ballroom, and our own historic boathouse. After cheese and crackers, light snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert, we will return to the boathouse. Bring warm clothing, as it can get chilly after the sun sets. Our Moonlight Tours are designed as a slow, relaxing group paddle suitable for folks of all paddling abilities. Be prepared to paddle a canoe 2–3 miles over the duration of the tour.” Advanced reservations are recommended; click [here](#) to sign up or for more info.

May 10-18 – STATEWIDE – *Bay State Bike Week*, presented by the [Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition](#) (MassBike) in cooperation with the [Massachusetts Department of Transportation](#) (MassDOT). “[Bay State Bike Week](#) is an annual celebration of human-powered, two-wheeled transportation. It is fitting that Massachusetts would be the only state in the nation with a truly statewide bike week, given our long history of biking.” Click [here](#) for more info on events in your area or that otherwise interest you.

May 10-11 and 17-18 (Saturday-Sunday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Shad fishing Derby*, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM in Holyoke, sponsored by the [Holyoke Gas and Electric Department](#) (HG&E). The annual HG&E Shad Derby is one of the region’s largest fishing events. Held this year on two weekends in May, the Derby offers both adult and youth fisherfolk the opportunity to win prizes as they enjoy the recreational benefits of the Connecticut River. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 10-June 15 (Wednesdays-Sundays) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Turners Falls Fishway open for public viewing*, sponsored by the [Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center](#). The [Turners Falls Fishway](#) is located on First Street, off Avenue A, in Turners Falls, MA. The facility is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and also on Monday, May 26 for the Memorial Day holiday. Spring on the Connecticut River offers an unrivaled opportunity to witness the migration of shad, sea lamprey and other anadromous fish. These fish migrate from the ocean and head upriver to spawn in the rivers of their birth. A visit to the Turners Falls Fishway provides an opportunity to learn about these amazing journeys. Admission is free; click [here](#) or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960, or (413) 659-3714 for more info.

May 11 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Birding excursion in Robinson State Park*, 7:30 AM – 12:00 noon in Agawam, sponsored by the [Allen Bird Club](#). Look for nesting and migrant songbirds. Meet on Colemore St., opposite the North St. entrance to the Park (see [map](#)). Click [here](#) or contact John Hutchison [(413) 562-3976] for more info.

May 11 (Sunday) – CEDAR SWAMP (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Spring Birding excursion in Cedar Swamp* in Manchester, 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM, sponsored by the [Manchester-Essex Conservation Trust](#). Dave Weaver will help birders identify migratory and resident songbirds in the Cedar Swamp area. Meet at the [Cedar Swamp trailhead parking area](#) off upper School Street, in Manchester-by-the-Sea. Bring binoculars, but please leave your dog at home. Click [here](#) or write to conserve@mect.org for more info.

May 11 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Nahanton Park Mother's Day Bird Walk Trip*, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Newton Conservators](#). [Nahanton Park](#) offers a mix of woodlands, wetlands, edge habitat and meadows along the Charles River, making it one of the best birding spots in Newton for both migratory and resident songbirds. Likely finds include brightly colored warblers, vireos, and orioles. Also expect bluebirds, scarlet tanagers, swallows and brown thrashers. Enter the park at the Nahanton Street entrance next to the river. Parking is available inside the park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Beginners as well as experienced birders are welcome. Boots are recommended. Walk will be cancelled in steady rain. Click [here](#) or contact co-leaders Alison Leary (617) 821-5619 or Haynes Miller (617) 413-2419 for more info. (Co-sponsored with [Friends of Nahanton Park](#).)

May 11 (Sunday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER and CANAL – *"Hidden Treasures" Canal Walk*, 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM in Uxbridge, sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#) (DCR). "In celebration of [Preservation Month](#), walk along restored sections of the Blackstone Canal and Towpath to search for hidden treasures! Discover an early stone quarry site and remnants of a stone lock, one of 48 such structures used to lift and lower canal barges along their 45-mile route. On this two-mile long walk, learn about the canal and the transformation of the agricultural landscape and discover the hidden heritage and natural wonders along the way!" The walk will start/end at the [Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park's River Bend Farm Visitor Center](#), Oak St. in Uxbridge. Click [here](#) or call (508) 278-7604 for more info.

May 11 (Sunday) – TAUNTON RIVER – *Spring Wildflower Walk*, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM in Berkley, co-sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#) (DCR) and the [Friends of Dighton Rock](#). "Wildflowers have been admired for their beauty and usefulness as foods and medicines for countless generations. From the elegant lady slipper to the common dandelion, each wildflower has its own story. Join Amy Wilmot for an outdoor walk to discover the season's first blooms. Additionally, the [Dighton Rock Museum](#) will be open and volunteer docents will be available to guide you in your discovery of Dighton Rock, a large 'glacial erratic' boulder, covered with petroglyphs, that once rested on the shore of the Taunton River adjacent to this park." The walk takes place at [Dighton Rock State Park](#). Click [here](#) for more info.

May 11 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *"Mother's Day with Wildflowers" guided walk* at [Bartholomew's Cobble](#) in Sheffield, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). "Give a gift to your mother and to Mother Earth. Join a ranger for a family-friendly stroll along gentle Cobble trails to view the amazing display of wild columbine and other native wildflowers. Learn what families can do to make better homes for native wild plants and butterflies, and wild animals in your own backyard." Fee: Adult/Child \$4; Family \$10 (members), Adult/Child \$6; Family \$15 (nonmembers); please pre-register. Click [here](#) or call (413) 229-8600 to sign up or for more info.

May 12 (Monday) – SCORTON CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayak Scorton Creek* in Sandwich, 10:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). "Scorton Creek is a wonderful tidal creek that winds its way through a scenic salt marsh. We'll paddle as far as we can, taking a few detours along the way. When we get back to the launch site, the people who want to continue paddling can head north, under 6A, and head toward the ocean; the current can be swift right just before the ocean. If you haven't been here before, leave plenty of time to find the launch at [Craven's Landing](#). No parking sticker is ever required, but there is very limited parking area at this State Wildlife Reservation." Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips, and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 13 (Tuesday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – “*Bartholomew’s Cobble: The Future is Bright*”

workshop, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Ashley Falls, sponsored by the [Ecological Landscape Alliance](#).

[Bartholomew’s Cobble](#), a property of [The Trustees of Reservations](#) (T’TOR), is a [National Natural Landmark](#) that provides critical habitat to more than 30 state-listed species. Join tour guides Julie Richburg (T’TOR Regional Ecologist and Project Manager for the Bartholomew’s Cobble restoration) and Bridghe McCracken (founder of Helia Land Design and Chief Landscape Designer at [Project Native](#)) to learn the design and conservation considerations for the floodplain forest restoration taking place at Bartholomew’s Cobble. Click [here](#) to register and [here](#) for more info.

May 13 (Tuesday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Flower Moon Paddle on the Ipswich River*, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

in Topsfield, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Join us for a truly magical evening as we canoe the Ipswich River under the fading light of the Flower Moon. We’ll watch for ducks, herons, and other birds flying by, and bats flitting above the water catching insects. It’s possible that river mammals including muskrats, beavers, and otters might even swim past our boats. As the light dims, we will listen and call for owls and experience the sounds of the nocturnal river habitat. We will stop on one of the river’s islands to enjoy a campfire and snacks.” Basic canoeing instruction will be provided, along with all equipment. Fee: Adults \$28/members, \$32/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

May 13 (Tuesday) – MILL RIVER (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – “*Water Mills of Williamsburg: Where, When, Who Built Them & the Technology They Embraced*”

illustrated talk, 7:30 PM start, sponsored by the Williamsburg Historical Society. “In 1763, before the industries of Florence or Leeds were starting up, water-wheels were turning in that part of Hatfield soon to be Williamsburg. This illustrated program will reveal some of the earliest industrial history of the Northampton Mill River, winding down through the water works of the town from Goshen, Ashfield, and Conway. Photos of the many mills and millponds long gone and forgotten will be featured among the illustrations.” The talk, which will take place at the Church, 4 North Main St., is free and open to the public, and will be preceded by a potluck social at 6:30 PM, and then a brief business meeting. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 14 (Wednesday) – PAMET RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Pamet River and Harbor Paddle*

in Truro, 10:00 AM (assemble at put-in), 10:30 AM launch, sponsored by the [Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Put-in directions: From Route 6 northbound in Truro, right at the exit sign for Pamet Roads and Truro Center. At the junction signed for North and South Pamet Roads turn right, go a few hundred feet and turn right again onto South Pamet Road. Go under Route 6. After 0.1 m you come to Castle Road. Turn left, go about 100 feet and veer right onto Depot Road. After 0.5 miles, the road forks. Stay right toward Pamet Harbor. At 1.3 miles, you come to the harbor parking area. There is a \$6 launching fee. Life vest and spray skirt required. Pre-registration is required; contact trip leader [Don Paladino, (508) 349-2950, dip1958@comcast.net] to sign up, or click [here](#) for more info.

May 14 (Wednesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Moonrise Kayak Paddle*, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM,

sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary](#), on Martha’s Vineyard. “See Sengekontacket Pond in a new light, moonlight, as we celebrate the different full moons of summer. With a guide, you will kayak on the pond as the sun sets and the moon rises. Kayaks, paddles and lifejackets are all included. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: \$70/members, \$90/non-members. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat (single boats are available – click [here](#) or call to reserve). Click [here](#) or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info.

May 15 (Thursday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – *26th Annual Meeting of the Buzzards Bay Coalition*

, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, at the [Sea Crest Beach Hotel, 350 Quaker Road in Falmouth](#). “The evening will begin with a reception for [Buzzards Bay Coalition](#) members at 6:00 PM, followed by the Annual Meeting at 7:00 PM. The meeting will include a discussion of our accomplishments in 2013, election of board members, and presentation of the 2014 Buzzards Bay Guardian awards.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 15 (Thursday) – PARKER RIVER – *Bay Circuit Trail Hike* in Newbury, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “Hike a section of the [Bay Circuit Trail](#) ([map 1A](#)) from Old Town Hill Reservation to Rowley Gap: approx. 6 miles (easy to moderate). Extensive views of salt marshes, an historic former tavern and spectacular views from Old Town Hill Reservation.” Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) to sign up or for more info.

May 15 (Thursday) – CHICOPEE RIVER – *Revive the Chicopee River Watershed Council* meeting, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM at the [Palmer Historical Cultural Center](#), 2072 Main St, Three Rivers (Palmer). While the [Chicopee River basin](#) (which includes the Quaboag, Swift and Ware River watersheds) is the largest river system located entirely within Massachusetts, it currently has no active watershed organization. A series of gatherings has been organized to enable interested folks to discuss how we can revive an active organization to care for and enjoy the natural beauty of this four-river system. Click [here](#) or contact Keith Davies at chicopeewatershed@gmail.com for more info.

May 15 (Thursday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *“River Stories” Photography Walk with Beth Reynolds*, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, sponsored by (and taking place at) the [Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center](#). “The river landscape is rich in photographic stories. Take a closer look at the human-natural interface at Turners Falls through the camera’s eye and join photographer and teacher Beth Reynolds, who will coach participants on shooting quality images while packing light. Bring only one camera, a light weight tripod and one or two lenses - or your point and shoot digital camera. The group’s focus will be on learning to pay attention, reading the light and sharing in the observations of other group members to create better photos. Northfield Naturalist Beth Bazler will share information on eagles, river geography and access above and below the Turners Falls Dam. Wear an extra layer, as the river can be a breezy place on a spring evening. This event is part of [RiverCulture](#)’s Third Thursday event, [The Nature of Things](#). This free event is suitable for ages 10 and older.” Please call to pre-register at 1-800-859-2960. Click [here](#) or contact Bill Gabriel [(413) 659-4426, william.gabriel@gdfsuezna.com] for more info.

May 16 (Friday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Searching for Holyoke’s Butterflies*, 10:30 AM at the [Dinosaur Footprints](#) Reservation, Route 5 NORTH in Holyoke, sponsored by the [Mass. Butterfly Club](#). “Think there’s no interesting nature in the city? Think again! Once again we will embark on our annual Mass Butterfly Club search for the elusive Juniper Hairstreak on the banks of the CT River and up in the hills above Holyoke. Join The Trustees of Reservations ecologist Julie Richburg in exploring the TTOR’s [Dinosaur Footprints](#) and Little Tom properties in Holyoke. From Dinosaur Footprints we will drive about 2 miles to explore Little Mt. Tom, looking for Juniper Hairstreaks. Walking distance should be about 1 to 1 ½ miles. We will do a lot of tree shaking looking for these hairstreaks. The last two years we have seen Peregrine Falcons on this trip. Bring lunch and water.” Click [here](#) or contact Tom Gagnon at (413) 584-6353 or tombwhawk@aol.com for more info.

[>return to top of document](#)

May 17 – May 23

May 17 (Saturday) – PARKER RIVER – *Hike at the Old Town Hill Reservation* in Newbury, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Enjoy coastal vistas of The Great Marsh and Isles of Shoals from [The Trustees of Reservations’ Old Town Hill](#) property. From the 168-foot – high hilltop, you can see as far as Mount Agamenticus in southern Maine. Follow the easy trail to the hilltop, then explore a three-mile network of trails and pathways, which lead you through thriving wetlands and up to landscape-level views of this corridor of protected open space along the Parker River. Old Town Hill is a link in the [Bay Circuit Trail](#). Directions: From Rt. 95 Exit 54, take Rt. 133 East for 4.5 mi. Turn left onto Rt. 1A North and follow for 4.8 mi. Shortly after passing over the Parker River, turn left onto Newman Rd. and follow for 0.5 mi. to parking (10 cars) on left (see “P” symbol on [map](#)). While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – MILL RIVER (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – *Flatwater paddle on Warner Pond* in Hadley, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Berkshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Warner Pond (an impoundment of the Mill River) “is an undeveloped gem, with a great deal of wildlife and birds. The surroundings range from developed, with churches in view, to remote”. Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Elbert Bowler [(413) 532-4464, treble13@comcast.net] on or before 5/15 for more details.

May 17 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – “How-to: Building a Raingarden” workshop, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon at The Trustees of Reservations’ [Land of Providence Reservation](#) in Holyoke. “In this free program we’ll learn about rain gardens and how they function as a way to settle sediment and manage water flows on the landscape. We will be learning by doing as we install the plants in two such swales at the property. Please bring work gloves and a water bottle.” Please pre-register for directions and more information at (413) 532.1631 x 21 or jknox@ttor.org. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Twenty-first Annual EarthFest*, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the [Hatch Shell](#) and Charles River Esplanade in Boston, co-sponsored by 92.9 WBOS-FM and Whole Foods, in cooperation with the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#). [EarthFest](#) is a free celebration for the Earth showcasing environmentally friendly products, groups, and activities. EarthFest will also feature an all-star musical line-up, an interactive family area and more. [MassBike](#) will once again be providing free bike valet parking. Click [here](#) for more details; non-profit groups seeking to participate in the event should click [here](#), and prospective volunteers should click [here](#).

May 17 (Saturday) – MYSTIC and CHARLES RIVERS – *Boston Greenbelt Walk*, a one-day, 30-mile walk from Oak Grove Station in Malden to Riverside Station in Newton. The Boston Greenbelt Walk is a coordinated effort organized by many local and regional trail coordinators, the trail planning group of the [Metropolitan Area Planning Council \(MAPC\)](#) and the long distance walking organization, [FreeWalkers](#). This free event is intended to celebrate the fact that many trails in the Greater Boston area have improved in recent years, thanks to the dedicated efforts of many enthusiastic communities and individuals. After many years of planning, the trails can now be connected and serve as a longer regional trail for pedestrians and cyclists. While the length of the entire Walk is 30 miles, the walk route has been planned to maximize the use of mass transportation from the beginning to the end – and in between, and there are options for shorter walks (i.e., taking part on only a portion of the Walk route). Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact David Loutzenheiser [DLoutzenheiser@mapc.org or (617) 933-0743] for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – “Blue Trail” Opening Day & River Clean up, 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM from Athol to Orange, sponsored by the [Millers River Watershed Council](#). “Join the Council as we run the original [Blue Trail](#) from Cass Meadow in Athol to the Boathouse at Orange Riverfront Park. Bring your own boat, or use one from our event partner: [Peak Expeditions](#).” Click [here](#) to sign up and [here](#) for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – “*Millers River Rumble*” Canoe Race, 2:00 PM start in Millers Falls (Erving/Montague), sponsored by the [New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association](#) (NECKRA). “A 6 mile, Class III race course on the ‘lower Millers’ whitewater run. This course starts a mile west of Erving and runs through the “funnel” rapid (optional portage), finishing at the large public parking area off Route 2.” Race registration takes place [here](#) from 12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM. Click [here](#) or contact [Jeff Belanger](#) [(413) 552-5473] for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – LITTLE RIVER and ALEWIFE BROOK (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – *Edible Wild Plant Walk* at the Alewife Reservation, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM in Cambridge, sponsored by the [Friends of Alewife Reservation](#). Join Jules Kobek to learn about edible, medicinal, and other useful plants growing in the Alewife Reservation. Find out what plants and teas have been used for food, medicine, dyes, cordage, and other useful things. Dress appropriately for the weather (rain gear or sun hat), muddy trails (waterproof shoes or boots), and ticks (long pants tucked into socks, long-sleeved shirts). Bring drinking water and bug spray. Meet at Reservation parking lot, off of Acorn Park Drive in Cambridge (see [map](#)). Click [here](#) or contact Jules at EJkobek@gmail.com for more info. [This event is repeated on 6/15.]

May 17 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Canoe/Kayak Demo Day*, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at [Hampton Ponds State Park](#) in Westfield, sponsored by (and benefitting) the [Westfield River Watershed Association](#) (WRWA). [Wilderness Experiences Unlimited](#) located in Southwick is partnering with the WRWA to provide an opportunity to “test drive” more than 80 different styles of canoes and kayaks (including stand-up paddle boats), along with paddles and personal flotation devices, to make it a safe, informative and fun experience, on and off the water. Instructors will be on hand and demonstrations of skills will take place throughout the day. There will even be a raffle for a Kayak and gear. Hungry? Snacks, drinks and hot dogs will be plentiful. Admission is \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per family. Current WRWA members are admitted for free. Click [here](#) or contact [George Reichert](#) or [Fran Siska](#) for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Medfield to Natick flatwater paddle*, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA). Meet at 10:00 AM at the put-in (next to the [Medfield Wastewater Treatment Plant](#) off of West St.) for a 10:30 AM shuttle run to the take-out. Meandering gently through mostly undeveloped terrain, much of which is part of the [Charles River Natural Valley Storage Area](#), this segment is considered to be one of the prettiest stretches of the Charles River. Any length boat is OK, but paddlers in short and/or one-person boats may find the 11-mile distance to be too long. Bring a lunch. A change of clothes in a waterproof bag is required. Click [here](#) or contact trip leaders Susan Engleman [sje54@hotmail.com, (508) 655-1633 (home) and (508) 353-6411 (cell)] or Tom McHugh [tmc99992@yahoo.com or (401) 481-5062] for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *“Historic North River” Kayak Tour*, 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM, sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) (NSRWA). “Enjoy a leisurely 8.5 mile excursion featuring the cultural and natural history of the North River. Learn about the North River’s role in the lives of Native Americans, colonial shipbuilders, the industrial revolution, and the modern day era, and will examine how its ecology has changed through time.” Fee: \$70/member, \$95/non-member (includes NSRWA membership). All kayaking equipment is included. Suitable for adults and accompanied children 8 years or older. Call (781) 659-8168 to sign up, or click [here](#) for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Guided Fly Fishing for Stripers*, 6:00 AM (!) start, sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) (NSRWA). “Join two expert fly fishermen for a guided 4-hour fly fishing expedition for Striped Bass on the North River! Have an experience of a lifetime fishing with those who know how to catch fish on the North River using fly fishing gear. Please bring your own equipment, flies and leaders will be provided if necessary. If you don’t have equipment we may be able to provide it. Fee: \$75/NSRWA members, \$100/non-members. The event is limited to 8 people.” Call (781) 659-8168 to sign up or for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – GREEN HARBOR RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Walk for Wildlife*, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Marshfield, taking place at (and benefitting) [Mass. Audubon’s Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “The Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the largest grasslands remaining in Massachusetts. This habitat is essential to species like the bobolink, eastern meadowlark, and Savannah sparrow. The ‘Walk for Wildlife’ event includes short loops, longer loops, and checkpoints along the way. There will also be activities, snacks and hayrides for all participants. Since you choose your own path, the Walk is suitable for all ages and abilities (as well a jogging stroller!) so bring your family, friends, and co-workers for a great walk on a spring day. Registration and sponsor forms are available at www.massaudubon.org/southshore or by calling North River Wildlife Sanctuary at (781) 837-9400. Registration fee is \$20/person, or \$50 for a team of up to six people.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – NAUSET MARSH (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayaking the Outer Cape Water Trails*, 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM in Eastham, offered by [Cape Kayaking](#). “Nauset Harbor and the surrounding marshland have been a critical estuary and port for mariners in the past, and continues to be of great significance today. Experience the constantly changing coast and waterways while learning about the history of the past mariners and the utilization of the sea and land. We will also talk about the making of the Canal, in recognition of Cape Cod’s 100 year anniversary of becoming an island. Kayak instruction is provided and

equipment is supplied. Cost is \$50 per person; as there is limited space, reservations are required. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Cape Kayaking [(508) 247-7402 or Jonathan@CapeKayaking.com] to sign up or for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – RED BROOK (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – “Trout, Turtles, and Barrens Buck Moths: Rare Species of the Lyman Reserve” walk, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). The Trustees’ [Lyman Reserve](#) is the home of several rare species, including sea run (aka “salter”) brook trout, eastern box turtles, and the barrens buck moth. Several habitat restoration projects have been undertaken to ensure that these state listed species are protected and that lucky visitors to the property will always be able to catch a glimpse of these amazing, but seldom seen, animals. Click [here](#) or call (508) 636-4693 ext.103 for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – Basic Wetland Delineation: Soils, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM in Marion, MA, sponsored by the [Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions](#). Focus is on hydric soils, indicators of wetland hydrology and understanding the DEP BVW Delineation Field Data form: Section II. Indicators of Hydrology. [Morning lecture by John Rockwell followed by afternoon field session](#). Presented in cooperation with the [Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program](#). Lunch and materials included. Fee: \$95/MACC Members, \$125/Non-members, \$60/Students. Click [here](#) or call (617)489-3930 to sign up or for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT WATERSHED – DAR State Forest ‘Bike Hike’, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Goshen, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries](#). “Join historian and avid mountain biker Mike Whalen for an ‘off the beaten path’ interpretive bike tour of the Highland Lakes back-country at [DAR State Forest](#) in Goshen. Biking the forested landscape offers a unique perspective on the natural world and is a fun way to learn about the ecology and cultural landmarks of the highlands region. This bike hike will explore glacial erratics that include an ice age ‘balancing rock’, early homestead sites, extensive beaver wetlands and gorgeous panoramic views from an active state fire tower at the top of 1,617-ft Moore Hill. This moderate bike hike will use a combination of paved and dirt surfaces, but the majority of the ride will be on dirt trails and gravel forest roads, so a mountain bike with knobby tires is highly recommended. Bring a lunch, plenty of water, a bike helmet and be ready to roll.” Fee: Adults \$15/members, \$20/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – SACKETT BROOK (HOUSATONIC WATERSHED) – ‘Return to Sackett Brook’ walk, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM in Pittsfield, sponsored by [Mass Audubon’s Berkshire Sanctuaries](#). Join Mass. Audubon Education Coordinator Gayle Tardif-Raser on a walk to the site of a [recently-removed dam](#) across Sackett Brook at [Mass. Audubon’s Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary](#) to see the restoration of a free-flowing stream ecosystem. Dress for the weather and wear boots or shoes you don’t mind getting wet. Although the event is free, pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 637-0320 to sign up or for more info.

May 17 (Saturday) – HOOSIC RIVER – Hoosic River Paddle and Float, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Hoosic River Watershed Association](#) (HooRWA) and the Williams College Outing Club. “Help HooRWA and the Outing Club set a record for the greatest number of boats on the Hoosic River in one day! Assemble at [Cole Field](#), Williams College, in Williamstown by 9:00 AM. Bring your own kayak or canoe, drop it off, and then leave your vehicle at Mack Molding on Route 346 in Pownal, VT. Return by our shuttle, and float down the most scenic portion of the Hoosic to learn about your backyard river. Take out at Clayton Park in Pownal about midday. Register by May 12 (if possible) by calling the HooRWA office @ (413) 458-2742 and leave your name and number. The \$10 fee provides you with shuttle service, picnic and a great experience. Wild Oats will provide sandwiches and fruit; Higher Ground will provide lemonade; Williams College Dining Service will provide pastries.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 17-23 (Saturday – Friday) – STATEWIDE – National Safe Boating Week, sponsored by the [North American Safe Boating Campaign](#). Click [here](#) to order free educational and other items promoting safe boating and the wearing of life jackets (PFDs), and click [here](#) to add your safe boating-themed event to their Calendar. Write to campaign@safeboatingcampaign.com for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – MILL RIVER (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – *Early Morning Canoe* at [Mass. Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary](#), 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM in Easthampton, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Connecticut Valley Sanctuaries](#). Join Naturalist-Educator [Aimee Gelin](#) of Tamarack Hollow to experience the beauty of the Mill River in the morning hours while watching for wildlife such as the Great Blue Heron, Beaver, Dragonfly and Songbirds. Learn your wetland plants such as shrubs and ferns along the way. Fee: Adults \$15/members, \$20/non-members. Canoes, paddles and PFDs are provided. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – MYSTIC RIVER – *Eighteenth Annual Mystic River Herring Run & Paddle*, sponsored by (and benefiting) the [Mystic River Watershed Association](#). Participate in a 5K Race or Walk or a 3-, 9- or 12-mile paddle, or bike ride. Meet at the [Boys and Girls Clubs, Blessing of the Bay Boathouse, 32 Shore Drive in Somerville](#) (park at the Somerville District Court at 175 Fellsway). 5K Race & Walk registration opens at 8:00AM; 5K Run/walk starts at 9:00AM; Paddling Races (see [map](#)) start at 11:00AM; the bike ride starts at 11:15 AM. (The bike ride will take place along existing paths on both sides of the Mystic River through Somerville and Medford, in addition to the wildly popular Park at River's Edge along the Malden River. The ride will also feature the brand new Wellington Greenway, as well as the first Bike to the Sea segment in Everett.) Click [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), or contact Mark at (617) 965-5110, or click [here](#) to reserve a boat for the race.

May 18 (Sunday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Paddle the Neponset Estuary*, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by the [Neponset River Watershed Association](#) (NepRWA). “Calling all paddlers! Load up your canoes and kayaks, and join NepRWA Board Member, Maura O’Gara and Willett Pond Manager, Tom Palmer on a spring tour of the beautiful Neponset Estuary. The tour will launch at 2:00 PM from the dock at [Neponset II Park in Dorchester](#), near the intersection of Granite Ave. and Hill Top St., and head toward Milton Lower Mills. Bring water, sunscreen, hats, and snacks. **This event is BYOB (bring your own boat)**. Please RSVP to Nancy Fyler by Friday, May 16 at fyler@neponset.org, or click [here](#) for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – INDIAN HEAD RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *“History of Luddam’s Ford” walk* in Hanover, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#). “[Luddam’s Ford Park in Hanover](#) has been home to many industries, from saw mill to rubber mill and now is a lovely recreational area with miles of walking trails along the Indian Head River. Join Joe Grecco to discover this site’s rich history.” The walk is free for NSRWA members and \$5/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (781) 659-8168 for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Foraging walk along the Westport River West Branch*, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the [Westport River Watershed Alliance](#). Led by expert forager [Russ Cohen](#), participants will explore the coastal shore land at Westport Point to encounter and learn about the comestible qualities of at least 18 species of wild plants, and enjoy a tasting of wild treats after the walk. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required by calling (508) 636-3016 or registering online. Fee: \$25/WRWA member, \$30/non-member. Click [here](#) or call the Alliance’s office at the number above for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – STILL RIVER (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Morning bird walk* in Harvard, sponsored by the [Friends of the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge](#). “Come look for breeding populations of migratory birds, but also learn about our resident birds at the [Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge](#). Naturalists Dick and Peggy Knowlton will again be our leaders. It is not uncommon for about 38 different species of birds to be observed during our spring walks! Bring your binoculars. Birders of all levels are welcome. We’ll walk at a casual pace. There might be some biting insects. Meet at the Oxbow Refuge parking lot at the end of Still River Depot Road in Harvard. Please, pre-register by calling Rona at (978) 779-2259 or via e-mail at ada.friendsoftheoxbownwr@gmail.com.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – SQUANNACOOK RIVER (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Walk in the Groton Town Forest*, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Explore the varied topography and habitats of this scenic woodland, including eskers, kettle holes, dry upland, marsh, the Dead River, and more. Meet at the end of Town Forest Road, off Rte. 225 in West Groton (42.5973N, 71.6052W). While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Olin Lathrop [(978) 742-9014] for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – ASSABET RIVER – “*Wilderness Treasure Hunt*”, 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM in Westborough, sponsored by the Westborough Community Land Trust (WCLT). “Discover the Assabet River and Mill Pond on a family-friendly letterboxing and geocaching excursion at the WCLT’s [Headwaters Conservation Area](#). Caches can be found using maps/directions available at the starting point, or using your mobile GPS device. Bring your smart phone or a hand-held GPS or accompany our guides. When you find a cache, sign the logbook and continue on to find the treasure. Meet at the [Mill Pond School](#).” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – *Guided walk at Gowing’s Swamp* in Concord, 1:30PM – 3:30 PM, sponsored by the [Sudbury Valley Trustees](#). “[Gowing’s Swamp](#) is an enchanting, level bog complex set within a dramatically glaciated landscape, including a deep kettlehole bog in the southern end. Join our spring walk along the verdant shorelines, fields, and ridges that encircle Gowing’s Swamp, enjoy its many beautiful vistas, seasonal flowers and fragrances, learn more about the bog’s ecology, and discover the rich history of this very special Concord landscape. The walk will begin with an introduction to the Playscape at Ripley, a unique nature park that will serve as an accessible outdoor experience for all ages and abilities. We’ll meet in the Ripley Playscape gathering circle behind the Ripley School at the end of Meriam Road in Concord, MA.” The walk will be led by Educator/Naturalist/Photographer [Cherrie Corey](#). Fee: free (members), \$10 (nonmembers). Click [here](#) for more info and [here](#) to register.

May 18 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Paddle the Ipswich River: Winthrop Street to Riverbend*, 12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM in Ipswich, sponsored by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#). “Join members of the Ipswich Stream Team for a paddle through one of the least developed [sections](#) of the river. The timing of the trip is such that you will end at our headquarters just in time for the Annual Dock Opening Celebration. Please bring your own boat, PFD, and water and RSVP for details on shuttling boats. Contact [Cynthia](#) or call 978-412-8200” to sign up or for more info.

May 18 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Boston Environmental Film Festival* in Boston, sponsored by (and benefitting) [“e” inc – an environment science, learning and action center](#). The Film Festival includes a selection of 2014 award-winning films from [Wild and Scenic](#), the nation’s largest environmental film festival. The films share stories of love for the outdoors, activism, and an awareness of change in the natural world. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more info.

May 19 (Monday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – “*Introduction to the Birds*” at Cogswell’s Grant, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM in Essex, co-sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Joppa Flats Education Center](#) and [Historic New England](#). “The beautiful 165-acre [Cogswell’s Grant in Essex](#) offers a variety of habitats that attract many species of birds. During mid-May, many breeding birds such as bobolinks and Baltimore orioles have already returned to our fields and forests to nest, while many others are still migrating through our area en route to their more northerly breeding grounds. Join Bill Gette for a leisurely morning walk through the grant. During the walk, we will discuss the many aids to field identification, identify birds by their vocalizations, and discuss breeding behavior. The grasslands, salt marshes, and woodlands of Cogswell’s Grant are a treasure trove for birders. Coffee and refreshments will be served, and the historic house will be open to participants for a brief tour. Meet at [Cogswell’s Grant](#), on Spring Street in Essex. Please dress for the weather and bring binoculars. The member price applies to members of Mass Audubon and Historic New England.” Fee: Adults \$10/members, \$14/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 19 (Monday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *Flatwater paddle*, sponsored by the [Wampanoag Paddlers](#). “This section of river, called the [Quinebaug River Water Trail](#), is 4.6 miles long and takes about three hours. The paddle will be extended by paddling the pond and stopping for lunch along the way. Put-in time of 10:00 AM hours feels about right. We can meet at the take-out on East Brimfield Lake (Rte. 20), leave a car there and caravan to the put-in on Holland Pond. Bring a lunch. Contact trip leaders George & Margaret Estano at (781) 848-8686 at least two weeks beforehand for additional details and directions.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 20 (Tuesday) – MALDEN RIVER (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – *Friends of the Malden River Meeting*, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM at the [Malden Public Library, Salem Street, in Malden](#). “Please join the Friends of the Malden River – a new citizens group committed to drawing the Malden River back to vibrant, civic life at our next meeting! For more information, see [www.maldenriver.wordpress.com](#), including videos about the river and interviews with community members!” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 20 (Tuesday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – “*Spring Wildflowers at Macomber Woods*” field trip, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Framingham, sponsored by the [New England Wild Flower Society](#). [Macomber Woods](#), a “57-acre woodland oasis in Framingham, encompasses meadows, an upland forest, a babbling brook, and wooded wetlands. The property was part of the Raceland estate owned by John R. Macomber, for whom it is named. Untouched for decades, the land has been reclaimed by nature, but signs of the human touch remain: the stonework at the entrance, cattle guards on the bridges, and century-old wisteria vines and rhododendrons. The broad trails are old carriage roads that crisscrossed the estate. Among the plants you may see in bloom are Indian cucumber root, rhododendron, pink lady’s-slippers, and jack-in-the-pulpit. The walk will focus on plant identification as well as natural history. Bring lunch, water, a favorite field guide, and a hand lens if you have one.” Fee: \$23/members, \$28/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (508) 877-7630 ext. 3303 to register or for more info.

May 20 (Tuesday) – HOOSIC RIVER – *Hoosic River Stories* in North Adams, sponsored by the [Hoosic River Revival](#). “The stories we tell ourselves about who we are, where we live and what we care about nourish our lives. They matter! Hoosic River Revival has been working with [renowned story teller Judith Black](#), who has spent the last year talking with area residents and hearing their stories about the Hoosic River. She’s crafted a beautiful narrative about our river, and we’re pleased to share her work with you in a one night only public performance.” The event takes place at the [First Congregational Church](#), 134 Main Street in North Adams. Doors open at 5:30 PM; pizza and beverages served at 6:00 PM. The performance begins at 6:45 PM. As seating is limited, please RSVP (via email to info@hoosicriverrevival.org) and arrive early!

May 20 (Tuesday) – QUINSIGAMOND RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Flatwater paddle in South Grafton*, launching promptly at 6:15 PM behind the Riverview Apartments, off Route 122 in Fisherville. This event is sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA)’s [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#). Suitable for all levels of experience. Club membership is required to take part in this event; click [here](#) for more details. Click [here](#) or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the [Message Board](#) as well as your e-mail and the [website](#) for updates.

May 21 (Wednesday) – BROAD MEADOW BROOK (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Explore the new Wilson Meadow*, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM in Worcester, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “What lives in a small meadow, about the length of a football field? We want to know, and you can help! Broad Meadow Brook’s newest meadow is also one of the few that remain in Worcester, and possibly the oldest. The recent addition of the Wilson-Rice Farmstead includes a former hay meadow on the banks of Broad Meadow Brook, full of interesting creatures. In addition to about 100 plants, all sorts of butterflies, dragonflies, mammals, frogs, and snakes use the meadow. Over the spring and summer, we’ll see changes as the meadow grows taller, weather changes between dry and wet periods, and flowers and seeds parade through the seasons. We’ll look for any and all organisms. Learn about the biodiversity of a rare habitat while helping protect it. This program is a great way to learn our native biodiversity.” Fee: Adults \$9/members,

\$12/non-members; Children (8-18): \$6/members, \$8/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (508) 753-6087 to sign up or for more info.

May 21 (Wednesday) – STATEWIDE – *Spring Fling*, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM in Boston, sponsored by (and benefiting) [Clean Water Action](#). “[Please join us](#) in Boston to celebrate recent advances for our environment, build for more victories to come, and honor [Cindy Luppi](#), our New England Director, for two decades of incredible work with Clean Water Action.” The event takes place at [49 Social](#), 49 Temple Place, Boston, MA (near Park Street/Downtown Crossing T station). Click [here](#) or call (617) 338-8131 ext. 205 to RSVP, or [here](#) for more info.

May 21 (Wednesday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “*The Ipswich River - Lifeblood of Our Communities*” talk, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the [Hamilton-Wenham Library](#), 14 Union St, S. Hamilton. Wayne Castonguay, Executive Director of the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#), will discuss the importance of the Ipswich River to Hamilton, Wenham and surrounding communities with a focus on history, ecology and our drinking water supply and lead a discussion about the major [issues](#) facing the river today.

May 22 (Thursday) – QUIVETT CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Quivett Creek* from Paines Beach, Brewster, 9:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). “We’ll paddle from Paine’s Creek Beach and hug the shore going west to the mouth of Quivett Creek. As we make our way up this wonderful creek, we’ll be surrounded by extensive marsh. Unlike Scorton Creek and Chase Garden, where the reeds and grasses are too tall to see over, the vegetation along Quivett Creek allows distant views at high tide”. Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 22 (Thursday) – PLUM ISLAND SOUND – *Spring Birding at Rough Meadows*, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Joppa Flats Education Center](#). The [Rough Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary](#), on Patmos Road in Rowley (just east of scenic Route 1A), is Mass. Audubon’s newest wildlife sanctuary. “Come with us as we explore the salt marshes, fields, and oak and hickory uplands of this fabulous property, looking for spring migrant warblers, orchard orioles, red-bellied woodpeckers, and other songbirds.” Fee: \$18/members, \$21/nonmembers. Click [here](#) or call (978) 462-9998 to sign up or for more info.

May 22 (Thursday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Annual Membership Meeting of the Westfield River Watershed Association (WRWA)*, 5:45 PM start, and taking place at Lang Auditorium, [Westfield Athenaeum](#) (aka Westfield Public Library), 6 Elm St., Westfield (see [map](#)). “From 5:45 PM - 6:20 PM, a delicious snack and dessert spread with coffee and tea will be served; then a short WRWA business meeting will take place from 6:20 PM -7:00 PM at which the election of board members and officers, reports from treasurer and audit committee, and a President’s report will take place. From 7:00 PM to 7:45 PM, a presentation will be given by Dave Christensen, Ph.D. Dr. Christensen will share research insights on the influence of a small dam on the plant and animal life in a small tributary of the Westfield River. He will also discuss research at Pequot Pond (one of the Hampton Ponds) on food web relationships. Dr. Christensen teaches aquatic biology, hydrology, conservation biology and environmental legislation at Westfield State University.” The annual meeting is free and is open to all WRWA members in good standing who have paid their 2014 dues. Contact Lynn Bannon [(413) 454-5264 or lynnbannon@verizon.net] to RSVP or for more info.

> [return to top of document](#)

May 24– May 30

May 24 (Saturday) – STATEWIDE – *World Fish Migration Day*. [World Fish Migration Day 2014](#) (WFMD) is a one day global initiative, with local events worldwide, to create awareness on the importance of open rivers and migratory fish. WFMD is held to improve the public’s understanding of the importance of open rivers and migratory fish and their needs. Click [here](#) for more info and to learn about WFMD events in your area (see also below).

May 24 (Saturday) – MILL BROOK (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Eel Migrations in Millbrook - Passage from Sargasso Sea to Briar Swamp*, 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Rockport, hosted by Eric Hutchins, [Northeast Region](#), [NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center](#), and scheduled to coincide with [World Fish Migration Day](#). “Rockport residents will be introduced to the eels of Millbrook, the site of Rockport’s first European-American residents and the center of their early industry. With the help of the Millbrook Meadow Conservancy and Rockport High School students, Hutchins will provide a tour of the historic Millbrook. Participants will be introduced to ‘elvers’ (young American Eels) at the beach, as they enter the brook after traveling over 1,000 miles from the Sargasso Sea. Eels will be located and displayed temporarily in tanks within the Millbrook Meadow. Human impacts on the brook, first settled by European-Americans in 1699, will be discussed, highlighting the importance of rivers in early settlements for drinking, watering gardens, energy production and waste disposal. Ongoing efforts to restore the brook will be discussed, with a show-and-tell of the new fish ladder on a rebuilt dam. Attendees will learn about the many challenges to Rockport’s resident and visiting eels, rainbow smelt, and other migratory diadromous fish populations trying to make their way between fresh and saltwater habitats. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – MYSTIC RIVER – “*World Fish Migration Day*” Open House at the Mystic Lakes Fish Ladder in Medford, 11:00 AM -2:00 PM, co-sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#) and the [Mystic River Watershed Association](#). As part of [World Fish Migration Day](#), the DCR and MyRWA are hosting an open house at the DCR Upper Mystic Lake dam (1001 Mystic Valley Parkway) in Medford. The dam was renovated by the DCR in 2011 to include a fish ladder and eelway. Stop by to (hopefully!) [witness the migrating herring](#) as they make their way from the ocean up the Mystic River to the Mystic Lakes to spawn. We’ll also explore the mysterious American eel migration. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Beth [beth@mysticriver.org, (781) 316-3438] for more info. [Similar events take place on 5/12 and 5/18.]

May 24 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *World Fish Migration Day Tour of the Holyoke Fish Lift*, 11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Holyoke, sponsored by the [Connecticut River Watershed Council](#) (CRWC). “Join the CRWC for a [tour of the Holyoke Fish Lift](#). Fishway tours last one hour and include an introduction, viewing the fishlift operation, viewing the fish through underwater windows, plus questions and answers. Tours are led by trained fishway guides and begin at the white tent near the parking lot. Directions: GPS users should type in 1 Bridge Street, Holyoke, MA. The driveway is at the Holyoke end of the Rt. 116 Bridge between South Hadley Falls and Holyoke. Admission is free. For more information, visit <http://www.hged.com/fishway>. To confirm that fish are being lifted on the day of your planned visit, call (413) 536-9460.” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC WATERSHED – *Washington Mountain Meadow Trail Hike*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Washington, MA, led by historian Mike Whalen and sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Connecticut River Valley Sanctuaries](#). “If you ever wanted to walk across a lake without getting your feet wet, then this is your chance. Washington Mountain Lake was once a forest, then it was farmland, and for a brief moment in history, it was a lake. Originally created to be part of a massive flood-control project, the Washington Mountain Lake area is truly a multifaceted story. Today it is a magical place in the middle of nowhere, offering a fascinating natural landscape engineered by beavers and distant bureaucrats. The ‘lake’, now a combination of marsh, wet meadow, bog and flooded beaver habitat, lies deep within the 14,000-acre expanse of [October Mountain State Forest](#), which sweeps across the rugged Berkshire plateau, and encompasses a rich diversity of wetland flora and fauna. This once-drowned landscape is both serene and haunting, with decaying tree stumps marking the forest that only recently stood over the meadow. Remnants of an old village cemetery, 19th-century homestead sites, and tales of vagrant moose round out this unusual exploration of Washington Mountain Meadow.” Fee: Adults \$12/members, \$15/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – “*Make Room for the Natives*” workday, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee](#) and the [Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife](#). “Sign up ahead of time and meet at the Chester Railroad station in Chester at 9:00 AM. From there, participants will car pool to the [Keystone Arch Bridge Trail](#) at the [Walnut Hill Wildlife Management Area](#). Participants will

hike in to the locations where invasive Norway Maples have been identified. Brian Hawthorne, MassWildlife Habitat Manager, will be taking part in this event. Volunteers should bring gloves, their favorite hand saw, or clippers and pack plenty of food and water for the day. Click [here](#) or contact Meredyth Babcock at (413) 623-2070 or volunteer@westfieldriverwildscenic.org to sign up or for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – SNAKE RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – “Cake on the Snake” flatwater paddle, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA). Meet at 10:00 AM at the put-in (the [Plain St. bridge over the Canoe River in Easton](#)) for a 10:30 AM shuttle to the take-out. Paddle down the Canoe River into Winnecunnet Pond, then across the pond into the Snake River. The Snake meanders with countless hairpin turns through the vast (over 16,000 acre) Hockomock Swamp. Eventually you will come to Lake Sabbatia and the take-out. “This is a fun trip, with lots of diversity, and is suitable for all levels of experience. Bring a lunch. We will have cake at the lunch spot to celebrate paddlers with May birthdays.” Click [here](#), [here](#), or contact trip leader Lee Parham [leeoparham@gmail.com], (508) 286-5999] for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – Stage Harbor/Monomoy Flats Kayak Trip, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon (approx.) in Chatham, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Explore the winding tidal rivers, quiet bays, and scenic marshes of Cape Cod with experienced paddler and naturalist Dennis Murley. Fee: Adults + children 12 and older: \$40/members, \$45/non-members. Participants may choose among available single, tandem, and sea kayaks, or bring their own kayak to save \$10. We recommend that you bring sunscreen, windbreaker, hat, and drinking water. There are no facilities, such as restrooms or water fountains, at the meeting places.” Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 349-2615 to register or for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – Kayak the North River, 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM, beginning and ending in Hanover, sponsored by the [South Shore Hike, Bike & Social Club Meetup Group](#). “We’ll put in at 11:30AM (at the [North River Launch, Luddam’s Fork Park, off Elm Street, Hanover](#)) and head down river with the outgoing tide. This end tends to be narrower and very scenic and very easy. There are two stops on the way, a small Norwell beach and then onto Strawberry Beach. We will stay here for lunch (and swimming optional), and then head back, after the tide turns, and ride the tide back to Hanover. We will get back sometime between 3-4:00 PM. Note: The nearest Kayak rental is [Buckles and Boards](#) in Marshfield on Rte. 139 (just off Rte. 3); about ten minutes from the put-in. Be sure to bring lunch, drinks and a towel.” Click [here](#) or contact [Rich](#) for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – MASHPEE and SANTUIT RIVERS (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – Paddle Shoestring Bay in Mashpee, sponsored by the [Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “A menu of options, depending on conditions - Mashpee and Santuit Rivers, Ockway Bay, Popponesset Creek, Shoestring Bay, Popponesset Bay, Nantucket Sound and Pinquisset Marsh. Possible lunch spots - Gooseberry Island, Thatch Island, Meadow Point and Crocker’s Neck Beach. Likely wildlife galore! Probably approximately 8 miles.” Pre-registration required; click [here](#) or contact trip leader Louise Foster at (508) 420-7245 to sign up or for more info.

May 24 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – Upper Falls Greenway walk, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by [Newton Conservators](#). Tour Newton’s newest parkland: the [Upper Falls Greenway](#). The 3-mile walk will include the greenway trail itself, as well as some possible future extensions and connections to existing parklands, including the spur line to Christina Street and the Charles River Pathway. Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Jerry Reilly at (617) 999-5300 for more info.

May 25 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – Riverside pathway tour, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the [Newton Conservators](#). Tour this proposed walking trail that could link Lower Falls to the Lasell Boat House in Auburndale. This mile and a half walk is mostly along the banks of the Charles River and will include crossing an unused railroad bridge that spans Rte. 128 into Lower Falls. The existing trail is a bit rough in places, so wear suitable footwear. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact trip leader Jerry Reilly at (617) 999-5300 for more info.

May 25 (Sunday) – CHASE GARDEN CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Chase's Garden Creek* in Yarmouth Port, 10:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). “Chase Garden Creek winds its way into a beautiful marsh in Yarmouth Port. High tide in Barnstable Harbor is 9:26 AM, so we will have plenty of water out and back if the winter storms haven’t changed the sand distribution under water in a way that interferes with our paddle. We won’t know until we try it. The launch area is flanked on the left by a long boardwalk, where people go to see the sunset and the gorgeous views of Cape Cod Bay and a beach area on the right. There is an active osprey nest next to the boardwalk and five more osprey nests in the marsh.” Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

May 25 (Sunday) – SUDBURY RIVER (SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED) – *Hike to the Sudbury River*, Adams and Fairhaven Woods, Walden Pond, and Pine Hill in Lincoln and Concord, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). This is an ambitious, 10-mile hike (although >70° temps. may lessen the distance). Meet at the [MBTA commuter rail parking lot in south Lincoln](#). No dogs; non-AMC members \$1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you might want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Jim Loughlin [(617) 923-8039] for more info.

May 26 (Monday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Memorial Day Canoe Trip*, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM in Easthampton, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Connecticut Valley Wildlife Sanctuaries](#). “Enjoy a spring canoe trip prior to your Memorial Day cookout! We will meet at the [Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary](#) and carpool to shuttle the short distance to the canoe put-in area on Route 5. This will be a one-way paddle from the bridge on Route 5 to the Oxbow. Along the way we will look at spring wildflowers and blooming trees as well as watch for birds such as great blue herons, and kingfishers. We will also keep an eye out for the resident beavers.” Fee: Adults/children 8+: \$15/members, \$20/non-members. Canoes, PFDs and paddles are provided. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

May 26 (Monday) – MATTAPOISETT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Rochester Memorial Day Boat Race*, 8:30 AM, sponsored by the Town of Rochester Fire Department. The race begins at Grandma Hartley’s Reservoir on Snipatuit Road. It finishes at the Herring Weir, River Road at Route 6, in Mattapoisett. The race is open to persons of all ages. There will be two persons to a boat. The boat must be a homemade river racer design of any material you choose. There are no limitations or restrictions on types of paddles. Divisions include open/men’s, women’s, junior boys, junior girls, co-ed and parent/child. Junior division teams are both contestants under 14 years old. Trophies are awarded to the first, second and third place finishers in each division, and are presented at 7:30 PM on Memorial Day at the Rochester Memorial School on Pine Street. Although no entry fee is charged to take part in the race, pre-registration is required: contestants can register at the Rochester Grange Hall, 205 Hartley Road, Friday, May 9 and Friday, May 16, 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The Boat Race Ham and Bean supper will be served on the Saturday evening of the Memorial Day weekend, May 24, 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Rochester Memorial School. Proceeds from the supper, along with donations, fund the expenses of the race. Contact Boat Race Chairman Arthur F. Benner at (508) 763-2024 for more info. [Click [here](#) to see a YouTube video of the 2013 Boat Race.]

May 27 (Tuesday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *“Lost Rivers” Movie Screening*, 6:30 PM in Lowell, part of the [2014 Eco Film Series: Land, Air, and Water](#), and co-sponsored by the [Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust](#) and the [Lowell Film Collaborative](#). “Nearly every major city was built near the convergence of many rivers. As cities grew with the Industrial Revolution, these rivers became conduits for disease and pollution. The 19th-century solution was to bury them underground and merge them with the sewer systems. These rivers still run through today’s metropolises, but they do so out of sight. *Lost Rivers* examines hidden waterways in cities around the world and introduces us to people dedicated to exploring and exposing them.” The screening takes place at the [Lowell National Historic Park Visitors Center](#) (246 Market St; parking is located at [304 Dutton Street](#)). Click [here](#) for more info.

May 27 (Tuesday) – WEST RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Paddle the West River*, 6:15 PM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA)'s [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#). “You’ll have the chance to see lots of wildlife as you paddle upstream and back through this stretch of clean, clear flatwater. The West River has excellent water quality and is one of our rivers that is clean enough to swim in the Blackstone Valley. You definitely wouldn’t mind falling into this section of the river! Also, no shuttling is necessary.” Club membership is required to take part in this event; click [here](#) for more details. Click [here](#) or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the [Message Board](#) as well as your e-mail and the [website](#) for updates.

May 28 (Wednesday) – MASHPEE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Mashpee River Walk*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Mashpee, sponsored by the [Cape Cod Museum of Natural History](#) in Brewster. Part of the [Wednesday Walks with Connie Boyce](#) series, folks participating in this walk will leave from the [Museum parking lot](#) (across 6A from the main building) at 9:00 AM to travel to the trailhead for a 3-4 mile walk on scenic, wooded conservation land along the Mashpee River. Fee: \$4/members, \$6/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (508) 896-3867 for more info.

May 28 (Wednesday) – ASSABET RIVER – “*Henry D. Thoreau’s Relationship With Rivers*” presentation by [Jeffrey S. Cramer](#), 6:30 PM (book signing) and 7:00 PM (talk), sponsored by the [Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge](#). Cramer’s presentation will cover Thoreau’s relationship with rivers as a solid yet fluid feature of the landscape as well as a spiritual symbol. Thoreau found a personal reflection in the “chips and weeds,” that floated past on the river, “fulfilling their fate.” As Cramer wrote in *The Quotable Thoreau*, for him “a mountain was never just a mountain, a river never merely a river.” “Please join us for a special evening as we hear about why Thoreau thought ‘what a piece of wonder the river is.’” This talk is offered as part of the Friends’ monthly speaker series, held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the US Fish and Wildlife Services’ [Eastern Mass. Visitor Center, 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury](#). The talks are free and open to the public. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 29 (Thursday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Sunset Kayak Tour*, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the [Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies](#). Paddle the Slocum River, explore the ecosystem; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don’t mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an [Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures](#) Certified Instructor. Fee: \$38/members, \$45/nonmembers. Limit 10; open to age 14+. Preregistration required; click [here](#) or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

May 30 (Friday) – SUDBURY WATERSHED – *Spring Birding Exploration at the Rookery*, 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM in Wayland, sponsored by Mass. Audubon’s [Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “What are those huge nests weighing down tall tree tops? This group of great blue heron nests make up a rookery. Most of the time, these beautiful birds are well camouflaged as they wade through wetlands fishing with their long beaks for frogs, fish and even crayfish. The rookery gives a different view of great blue herons, as they perch majestically and take flight with their 6-foot wingspans returning to the nest to feed their young. Come learn more about these amazing birds! Other species we may see include wood duck, brown creeper, belted kingfisher, and five species of woodpecker”. Instructor: Kathy Stark-Dia. Fee: Adults \$15/member, \$18/non-member. Pre-registration is required, click [here](#) or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

May 30 (Friday) – MILLERS RIVER – “*Paddle and Provisions*”, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM in Orange, offered by [Peak Expeditions](#). “Every Friday during the summer, Peak Expeditions partners with a different local restaurant or café, which will prepare a scrumptious meal for you to devour at our Boathouse ([25 East River Street, Orange](#)). The event runs from 4-7 PM, and costs \$20/pp for food and up to 3 hours on the river on or in a kayak, canoe or SUP (stand-up paddleboard). These events are very popular and most Fridays are very full, so please make reservations early. We all have a blast every week!! Come join the fun! BYOB.” Click [here](#) to sign up or for more info. [Similar events take place on 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27 and 7/4.]

May 30 (Friday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – “Frogs at the Bogs” walk, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Mattapoisett, sponsored by the [Buzzards Bay Coalition](#). “Listen to the melodic sounds of frogs and learn a few fun facts about them during this guided night time walk at The Bogs in Mattapoisett.” Meet at [The Bogs](#) in Mattapoisett. While there is no cost for this event, pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 999-6363 ext. 219 to sign up or for more info.

[>return to top of document](#)

May 31 – June 6

May 31 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – Housatonic River Cleanup by Canoe, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Lenox, co-sponsored by the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT) and the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). “We will meet at [Decker Landing in Lenox](#) and put in canoes to travel up and down the river, then return to Decker Landing for lunch. Help remove the bottles, cans and other miscellaneous light trash that has collected behind downed trees on this stretch of the Housatonic River. Registration required; call HVA (413) 394-9796 or email Alison at adixon@hvatoday.org, to reserve space in a canoe. All participants are required to wear a PFD (life jacket). For all clean ups, volunteers are recommended to wear old clothes and either wear old sneakers or boots. A few pairs of hip boots and rubber boots will be available to borrow. Volunteers should bring a water bottle, sunscreen, bug repellent and a hat. Pouring rain and thunder cancels a clean up. For more information and to register contact BEAT at (413) 230-7321 or HVA at (413) 394-9796. Information is also available at www.thebeatnews.org or www.hvatoday.org.

May 31 (Saturday) – FORT RIVER (CONNECTICUT WATERSHED) – Morning birding excursion to the [Fort River Division](#) of the [Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife Refuge](#), 6:30 AM start, sponsored by the [Hampshire Bird Club](#). “Josh Rose enjoys one of the best Bobolink shows in the area, hopes to find a few breeding and migrating warblers and sparrows, and enjoys the refuge’s newly built boardwalks and observation decks. Optional continuation to the Honeypot, possibly after lunch and ice cream at Cook Farm. Meet at the Bri-Mar Stables ([69 Moody Bridge Road, Hadley](#))”. Click [here](#) or contact Josh [(413) 835-0093] for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – PUDDING AND HERRING BROOKS (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) - Bird walk at the [Willow Brook Farm Preserve](#) in Pembroke, 8:00 AM start, sponsored by the [South Shore Bird Club](#). A 3-4 mile walk through very birdy habitat. Meet at the entrance on Rte. 14, about 0.2 miles west from Rt. 53. Look for sign, which is set back from road. Contact trip leader Sally Avery at dandsavery@comcast.net for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – “Learn to Kayak” course, 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM, sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) (NSRWA). “This Intro to Kayak two-hour course on the North River emphasizes safety, with the goal to provide paddlers with the basic knowledge needed to become a successful paddler. Cost: \$50/member, \$75/non-member (includes NSRWA membership). All kayaking equipment is provided. The event is suitable for adults and children 8 years of age or older.” Click [here](#) or call (781) 659-8168 to sign up or for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – MONOMOY RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – “In Search of Eastern Box Turtles” walk, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM at the [Monomoy River Conservation Lands](#) in Harwich, sponsored by the [Harwich Conservation Trust](#). “Join Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Director Bob Prescott for a discovery walk on Harwich conservation land. We’ll watch for eastern box turtles that are coming out of hibernation to nest. Eastern box turtles are a state-listed species of special concern. Their unique ability to close their shell completely to protect themselves from predators make them an exciting animal to view in their native habitat. All ages are welcome. Please meet at the [Trailhead Parking](#) at least five minutes before the program is scheduled to begin. While the walk is free, please register in advance by emailing hctwalks@gmail.com or calling HCT at (508) 432-3997 and pressing 4. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Accessible Recreation Fair*, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at [Artesani Playground, Soldiers Field Road in Allston](#), sponsored by the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). “DCR’s Universal Access Program (UAP) will offer a free, fun-filled day of celebrating Accessible Outdoor Recreation available for individuals, families and friends of people with disabilities. Activities will include a cycling fair with an assortment of accessible cycles available for use; other adaptive recreational activities, including hiking, letterboxing, face painting and interpretive programs; music; snacks, including Starbucks Coffee, Legal Seafood’s Chowder and much more! Join us rain or shine [call (617) 626-1294 for recorded status in case of severe weather] and enjoy the accessible recreation fair and the beauty of the Charles River running along the park. Enjoy the camaraderie while learning about DCR’s inclusive, accessible programs and resources available to people of all abilities around the state. Pre-registration is highly recommended, especially for use of equipment; call Gigi at (617) 626-1294, including if you’d like to volunteer at the event. Please RSVP to request an ASL interpreter. For additional info on DCR’s Universal Access Program and a schedule of activities, or to confirm program status, call (617) 626-1294 (voice), (413) 577-2200 (TTY) or click [here](#).”

May 31 (Saturday) – CHARLES and NEPONSET RIVERS – *Greenovate Boston Community Summit*, sponsored by the City of Boston’s Office of [Environment, Energy, and Open Space](#). The Community Summit, which will include the 8th Annual Mayor’s Greenovate Awards, will provide a unique opportunity for residents, businesses and community organizations to connect with each other, learn, and help shape the future of sustainability in the City of Boston. Click [here](#) for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Guernsey Path Walk*, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by the [Wellesley Trails Committee](#). “Walk along the Charles River to the historic Waban Arches, built in 1876 to carry water to Boston, and see the picturesque view of the Charles River from the top of the 50 ft. arches. Take an optional short walk thru the Guernsey Sanctuary to Sabrina Lake, the 1870’s site of an amusement park. Meet at 9:00 AM at the Guernsey parking area (take Dover Road from Washington Street and follow for 0.7 mi. Turn right onto Livingston Road, which becomes Winding River Road, and follow for 0.9 mi. Parking area is on your left at the trail map house).” Click [here](#) for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – TROUT BROOK (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *“Stream Safari”*, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM in Holden, sponsored by the [Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation](#). “This hands-on activity will show what creatures thrive in clean fast moving streams and how water quality affects us all. On a short walk along Trout Brook, we will provide waders and equipment for exploring water.” Meet at [Trout Brook Reservation, Manning St. in Holden](#). Click [here](#) for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *“Beset by Idleness & Intemperance: Paupers & Transients of the Poor Farm”* interpretive walk, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon at the [Westport Town Farm](#), sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Between 1824 and 1956, the Westport Town Farm served as the ‘poor farm’ – where Westport’s ‘paupers, transients, and those beset by idleness and intemperance’ could take refuge. Local historian Martha Guy leads a tour of the farm and shares the stories of some of those, who through unfortunate life circumstances or their own vices, came to live.” Click [here](#) or call (508) 636-4693 ext.103 for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER – *Hike/walk around Hodges Village Dam* in Oxford, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [French River Connection](#). “Approximately 3.5 mile walk on dirt roads and trails at a leisurely pace to accommodate most walkers, on somewhat rough terrain. Bring water, snacks and dress for the weather, and meet at the office atop the dam at 9:00 AM. Sturdy walking shoes or hiking boots are suggested. Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Jay Wade [joseph.l.wade@ampf.com, (860) 928-5599 (work) or (508) 461-9813 (home)] for more info.”

May 31 (Saturday) – ASSABET RIVER – *Paddle the Assabet* from Acton to Concord, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA). Meet at 9:30 AM for the 10:00 AM shuttle to the take-out. “We will put in at the Acton Canoe Launch and paddle down the Assabet River to its convergence with the

Sudbury River to form the Concord River. This trip is mostly flatwater, with some quickwater, and one broken dam at Damonmill that can be run or portaged. We will continue down the Concord River the Old North Bridge in the Minute Man National Historic Site.” This paddle is suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. Bring a lunch. Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Erik Eckilson [eckilson@cox.net or (401) 765-1741] for more info.

May 31 (Saturday) – NEPONSET RIVER – “Discover Port Norfolk” walk, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM on the [Neponset River Greenway](#), sponsored by the [Boston Natural Areas Network](#) (BNAN). “Tucked between the mouth of the Neponset River and the Southeast Expressway, Port Norfolk is a small Dorchester neighborhood with great transformations afoot. See the site of the former Shaffer Paper Company, which will soon be remediated and turned into a natural waterfront park. Comfortable shoes are recommended on this walking tour with neighbors and Greenway Council members. Meet at the Venezia Restaurant parking lot, [20 Ericsson Street in Dorchester](#).” Contact the BNAN at (617) 542-7696 or info@bostonnatural.org to sign up or for more info.

May 31 – June 1 (Saturday-Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – Ipswich River Birding Festival, sponsored by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#). “Join us for a weekend long celebration of the birds of the Ipswich River watershed! It doesn’t matter whether you’re an expert or a novice – the Ipswich River Watershed provides many opportunities to observe a great variety of birds. We will be hosting a series of bird walks from source to sea incorporating many different habitats!” Click [here](#) to download the Birding Festival flyer for more info on walk times and locations.

May 31 (Saturday) – BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED – Basic Wetland Delineation: Soils, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM in Marion, MA, sponsored by the [Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions](#). Focus is on wetland vegetation and understanding the DEP BVW Delineation Field Data Form: Section I. Vegetation. [Morning lecture by John Rockwell followed by afternoon field session](#). Presented in cooperation with the [Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program](#). Lunch and materials included. Fee: \$95/MACC Members, \$125/Non-members, \$60/Students. Click [here](#) or call (617)489-3930 to sign up or for more info.

May 31- June 1 (Saturday-Sunday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – “Cape Cod in Bloom”, a [Cape Cod Field School](#) two-day course, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Flowering shrubs and wildflowers grace the dunes, fields, woods, and wetlands in late spring. Even the beaches are in bloom! This two-day course provides a good introduction to the unique plants and shrubs that inhabit coastal Cape Cod—even those not flowering! Our focus will also include the larger landscape picture in order to understand plant ecology. We will launch right into a variety of field walks that will provide more intimate experiences with each coastal habitat and the plants found within them. We will stroll the shoreline of local beaches to identify and examine the adaptations of halophytic (salt-adapted) plants; explore the salt marsh to learn about the importance of these natural communities; hike through the pine woods that shelter woodland flowers and shrubs; discover the interactions between wildlife and plants; and learn about the dynamic nature of dune communities and how plants thrive there. Throughout our focus will include the identification, adaptations, ecological role, and natural history of these coastal plants.” The course is taught by botanist/naturalist Dennis Murley. Click [here](#) or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

June 1-30 – NATIONWIDE – National Rivers Month – click [here](#) for more info.

June 1 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – Fishway Open House, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in West Springfield, sponsored by the [Westfield River Watershed Association](#) (WRWA). “This free event offers a ‘once-a-year’ opportunity to tour the fish ladder, and possibly to see a returning adult Atlantic salmon if one’s been captured during the previous day or two. WRWA Board members will be present to describe the history and operation of the fish ladder, and you’ll have a chance to go down into the ‘pit’ to watch fish moving upstream. Parking is available near the old Southworth Paper Company building at 150 Front St. in West Springfield. Contact Bill Rose [(413) 786-0195, brose1525@comcast.net] for more info.”

June 1 (Sunday) – MILLERS RIVER – “Paddle and Brunch”, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Orange, offered by [Peak Expeditions](#). “Weekends are for recharging the mind, body and spirit. What better way to do that than to exercise the body and renew the spirit while paddling on the Millers River, then eat a nutritious meal of locally-grown food prepared by folks who know how to make it delicious? Peak Paddlesports has partnered with the [Millers River Café](#) to offer a relaxing brunch followed by a river trip. Getting in touch with our natural surroundings will be the focus of this 2.5 hour paddle.” Fee: \$30/pp. Click [here](#) to sign up or for more info. [Similar events are scheduled for 6/15 and 6/29.]

June 1 (Sunday) – MALDEN and SAUGUS RIVERS – “Bike to the Sea” Ride, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Bike to the Sea/Northern Strand Trail](#). The Ride starts at the [Madeline English School, 105 Woodville St., in Everett](#). Large sections of this year’s ride will be on newly-constructed bike paths (see [map](#)). Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more info.

June 3 (Tuesday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER and CANAL – Paddle the Blackstone Canal at River Bend Farm in Uxbridge, 6:15 PM (sharp) start at the [Tri-River Medical Parking Lot](#) (corner of Oak St. and Hartford Ave.), sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA)’s [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#). Paddle on a remnant of the Blackstone Canal to the historic Goat Hill Lock, or more experienced paddlers can paddle the “loop”: down the river, and then up the canal. (Click [here](#) to view an informative video from 2011 of the Blackstone Canal and River paddling loop.) NPS Ranger Chuck Arning will be on hand to provide interpretive info. Club membership is required to take part in this event; click [here](#) for more details. Click [here](#) or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401)647-5887 for more info on this trip. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the [Message Board](#) and the [website](#) for updates.

June 4 (Wednesday) – CHARLES RIVER – “The Charles River: Looking at Boston’s Major Waterway” book talk, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM in Chestnut Hill, sponsored by (and taking place at) the [Waterworks Museum](#). “Join Ted Clarke, author of [The Charles River: A History of Boston’s Great Waterway](#), as he shares his findings on the river’s rich 400-year history. Clarke will discuss the various uses of the Charles, including its role as a provider of water power, transportation, and recreation for the 23 towns and cities along its route.” A \$5 fee will be charged to attend the talk. Click [here](#) or RSVP to the Museum [info@waterworksmuseum.org or (617) 277-0065] for more info.

June 5 (Thursday) – STATEWIDE – Inland Wetland Plant Identification course, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in Amherst, hosted by the [UMass Extension’s Landscape, Nursery & Urban Forestry Program](#). “This introduction to inland wetland plant identification begins with an overview of the major characteristics of woody and non-woody vegetation used for identification in most plant keys. Guided exercises will be used in a classroom/laboratory setting to practice keying out plant specimens collected from local wetland sources. An afternoon field trip to a local wetland will allow opportunity to practice identification skills in a natural setting. Related topics such as plant adaptations to wetland hydrology and the concept of ‘hydrophytic’ vegetation will also be discussed”. Instructor: Dr. Deborah Picking; Required Text: [Field Guide to Nontidal Wetland Identification](#), by Ralph W. Tiner, Jr. The cost of the text is \$25. (When registering please indicate, if you need to purchase a copy of this field guide.) Fee: The cost for this workshop is \$100; click [here](#) to sign up or for more info. [Note the related course on 6/19.]

June 5 (Thursday) – BROAD MEADOW BROOK (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – Accessible Bird Walk Along Troiano Brookside Trail, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM in Worcester, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Troiano Brookside Trail is a lovely accessible path of wide, packed stone dust that runs along Broad Meadow Brook, overlooking wetlands which provide prime habitat for a variety of birds. This evening exploration should encounter birds and other wildlife as they end their busy day of feeding young and settle in for the night. We will take it slowly and see more! Meet at the Hampton Street entrance. Bring binoculars and field guides if you wish, or we have some to lend. As wetlands are also excellent places to encounter bugs, come prepared for a few insects.” Fee: free for members, \$5/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 753-6087 to sign up or for more info.

June 5 (Thursday) – STATEWIDE – *Screening of the documentary film DamNation*, 7:30 PM, hosted by (and taking place at) the [Patagonia Boston](#) store, 346 Newbury St. in Boston (see [map](#)), near the Hynes Convention Center (aka Auditorium) stop on the Green Line. Released earlier this year, *DamNation* “explores the sea change in our national attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers. Dam removal has moved beyond the fictional Monkey Wrench Gang to go mainstream. Where obsolete dams come down, rivers bound back to life, giving salmon and other wild fish the right of return to primeval spawning grounds, after decades without access. *DamNation*’s majestic cinematography and unexpected discoveries move through rivers and landscapes altered by dams, but also through a metamorphosis in values, from conquest of the natural world to knowing ourselves as part of nature.” The screening will be followed by a panel discussion about past, present and future dam removal projects in Massachusetts. Click [here](#) or call the store at (617) 424-1776 for more info.

June 5-6 (Thursday-Friday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *2nd Annual Cape Coastal Conference: Implementing Strategies to Improve Water Quality and Build Coastal Resilience* at the [Tilden Arts Center, Cape Cod Community College](#) in West Barnstable, hosted by the [Waquoit Bay Reserve’s Coastal Training Program](#). Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Tonna-Marie Rogers, Coastal Training Program Coordinator, at (508) 457-0495 ext. 110 or tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us for more info.

June 6 (Friday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Kayak “Eco-Tour” from Nahanton Park* in Newton, 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM, offered by [Charles River Canoe and Kayak](#). “Join our trained naturalist guide as we launch our double kayaks and get a quick introduction to paddling strokes. We will slowly explore this extraordinarily wild section of the river, poking into coves and shallows to find common and not-so-common wildlife. We frequently see great blue herons, turtles, several types of ducks, a variety of songbirds, and perhaps an egret, cormorant, muskrat, river otter, and beaver. Our guide will show us the best viewing spots, identify the flora and fauna that we see, and describe how they fit into the intricate web of life on the Charles. We’ll even see remnants of the area’s glaciated past. Our guide will also net-dip for benthic (bottom-dwelling) organisms like dragonfly larvae and water-boatmen. We offer our Eco-Tour in the evening, as this is one of the best times to view active wildlife. Bring binoculars, water, snacks, and extra clothing layers.” This trip begins/ends at the [Nahanton Park rental location](#). Cost: \$39/adult, \$29/child accompanied by an adult. Click [here](#) to reserve your spot or for more info.

June 6-8 (Friday-Sunday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Spring 2014 Walking Weekend*, sponsored by [Cape Cod Pathways](#). Cape Cod Pathways is a network of walking trails linking the 15 towns on Cape Cod. The project was created in 1993 to link the Cape’s conservation areas and open space and provide outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. Spring and Fall Walking Weekends feature guided walks on trails across Cape Cod. Click [here](#) for more info on the walks as they are arranged.

[>return to top of document](#)

June 7 – June 13

June 7 (Saturday) – NATIONWIDE – *National Trails Day*, sponsored by the [American Hiking Society](#). Click [here](#) for more info and to find out about events in your area.

June 7 (Saturday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *National Trails Day at Norris Reservation*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the [Norris Reservation](#) in Norwell, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “This year for National Trails Day, help us celebrate the life and dedication of Eleanor Norris who donated this property. Please bring work gloves and lots of energy, as we work together to care for this property that adds so much to our community. To register, please go to www.thetrustees.org/volunteer, look for the volunteer opportunity, and click ‘register’. If this is your first time using our online registration system, you’ll be prompted to fill out a volunteer profile first. You will receive email confirmation of your registration.” Click [here](#) or call (781) 740-7233 for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – IPSWICH WATERSHED – *National Trails Day Celebration, Ward Reservation*, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Andover, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). Come explore The Trustees' [Ward Reservation](#) with guided hikes through Pine Hole Pond (a rare quaking bog), a beaver wetland, and a great blue heron rookery. Then finish the day picnicking on top of Holt Hill, with great views of Boston. Click [here](#) or call (978) 689-9105 ext.1 for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “*Photo Safari*”, 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon in Ipswich, sponsored by the [Essex National Heritage Commission](#) (ENHC), hosted by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#) (IRWA), and taking place at IRWA's headquarters at [Riverbend](#) (143 County Road, Ipswich). “Equipped with all the latest camera gear from Tamron**, provided by [Hunt's Photo & Video](#), and personally coached by Hunt's technical experts and visiting professional photographers, capture the gardens, trails and wildlife out and about along the Ipswich River at Riverbend Reservation! ** *Please note:* Tamron is a lens manufacturer. If you choose to join the Tamron Photo Safari, you must be able to bring your own camera. Lens mounts will be provided at the Safari. Reservations required.” Fee: \$35/ENHC and IRWA members; \$45/non-Members. Click [here](#) or call the ENHC at (978) 740-0444 to sign up or for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – “*Birds and Brunch along the Ipswich River*” canoe trip, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM in Topsfield, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Join us for a morning canoe trip along the Ipswich River to look and listen for wetland breeding birds. There are so many wonderful birds singing this time of year, and we're likely to encounter yellow-throated and warbling vireos, great-crowned and willow flycatchers, Baltimore orioles, yellow warblers, and many more. We'll make our way upstream to Perkins Island and enjoy a yummy quiche and biscuit brunch with coffee and juice.” Basic canoeing instruction will be provided, along with all equipment. Fee: Adults \$25/members, \$32/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 887-9264 to sign up or for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – “*Wellesley Grand Tour*” hike, 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Wellesley Trails Committee](#). “Celebrate National Trails Day! Take a spectacular 10-mile loop hike along the trail system in Wellesley. We will start along the Brook Path, then take the Crosstown Trail, Charles River Path, Sudbury Path and Guernsey Path, and return on the Brook Path. Most of our hike will be on trails through woods or along aqueducts, with only 2 miles along roads. Bring sturdy footwear, water and a snack. Meet at the State Street parking adjacent to the High School stadium.” Click [here](#) or contact Miguel Lessing [(781) 431-2411] or Denny Nackoney [(781) 237-5174] for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER (FRENCH AND QUINEBAUG WATERSHED) – *National Trails Day Horseback Ride* in Oxford, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the [Bay State Trail Riders Association](#) (BSTRA). Pleasure ride for equestrians bringing their own horses on marked trail through the [U.S. Army Corps' Hodges Village Recreation Area](#). Open to both BSTRA members and non-members. Opportunity to get big prize package if you elect to get sponsors and are one of the 8 participants bringing in the largest amount in sponsor contributions. Free t-shirts for the first 50 registered participants. Large raffle following lunch. 100% of the money raised from this event will be used for trail creation, maintenance or preservation projects in Massachusetts. Click [here](#) or contact Lynn Paretsky at (508) 476-7094 or lynnparetsky@aol.com to sign up or for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Thirty-sixth Annual Lou Marcel Canoe Race*, 8:00 AM registration and (approx.) 9:00 AM start in Lawrence, benefiting [Special Olympics - Massachusetts](#). The theme for the 2014 race is “Pirates of the Merrimack River”. The non-competitive meander down the Merrimack River will run approximately 8 miles downstream from the start of the race at the Essex County Correctional Center on Commonwealth Avenue in Lawrence to the finish line and post-race VIP reception from 11:00 A M – 3:00 PM at the Crescent Yacht Club in Bradford, with prizes for the best pirate costumes. Don't own a canoe or kayak, but still want to participate? Thanks to Charles River Canoe and Kayak, canoe/kayak rentals will be delivered to the starting line in Lawrence and retrieved at the Crescent Yacht Club in Bradford for a nominal fee of \$55. Rental boats must be reserved on-line before the day of the race. Click [here](#) to rent your canoe/kayak, and click [here](#) or call (978) 750-1051 to sign up or for more info on the race.

June 7 (Saturday) – CONCORD RIVER – *Kayak the Concord River*, Billerica to Lowell, sponsored by the [Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust](#). The Trust “invites you to join our beloved rafting guides from Zoar Outdoor for an adventure along a seldom-traveled flatwater section of the Concord River. We’ll kayak from Billerica down the Concord River to Muldoon Park in Lowell. No previous kayak experience necessary! Fee: \$25/person with kayak rental (sit on top, 12 yrs +); \$15/person if you bring your own kayak or canoe; 12 and under free, but must ride with parent (children must be 5 or older)”. RSVPs required: Call (978) 934-0030 or write to gwen@lowelllandtrust.org to sign up. Click [here](#) for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Thirty-Fifth Annual Cambridge River Festival*, 12 Noon – 6:00 PM, sponsored by the [Cambridge Arts Council](#). While the River Festival has traditionally taken place on the banks of the Charles River since its inception in 1977, this year, due to overlapping major construction projects and large scale events taking place on this historical footprint, the Cambridge Arts Council has decided to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the River Festival in the [Central Square Cultural District](#) (click [here](#) for more info about that decision). This free event brings the Greater Boston community together to enjoy the talents of performers and artists. Click [here](#) for more info on the Festival.

June 7 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Sixth Annual Charles River One Mile Swim*, 8:00 AM start at the River Dock by the Hatch Shell, co-sponsored by the [Charles River Swimming Club](#) and the [Charles River Conservancy](#). After decades of pollution, the Charles River has benefited from the ongoing [Clean Charles River Initiative](#), started in 1995 to restore the river’s ecological health. The river is now clean enough on most summer days to meet swimming standards. This race is celebrating the efforts that went into cleaning the river and to highlight the need for continued clean-up to enable recreational swimming in the future. 150 swimmers are expected to participate at this year’s swim race. (The rain date is Sunday, June 15.) Click [here](#) to register for the event or [here](#) for more info. The Swimming Club is always looking for race volunteers as well – click [here](#) if you may be interested.

June 7 (Saturday) – GREAT MARSH (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Life on a Saltwater Farm: Paine House Tours for 17th-Century Saturdays*, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM at [Greenwood Farm](#) in Ipswich, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Situated on the edge of the Great Marsh, the 1694 Paine House at Greenwood Farm is the site of 250 years of family farming. Local residents set up fish drying stages, pastured cattle communally, and harvested salt marsh hay. A tour through the Paine House will illuminate the unique features of this First Period structure, including an ‘in situ’ dairy. Trails through the pastureland and the salt marsh are open to all daily, sunrise to sunset.” Click [here](#) or call (978) 356-4351 ext. 4049 for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – SANDERSON BROOK (WESTFIELD WATERSHED) – *Sanderson Brook Falls Cultural History Hike*, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in Chester, sponsored by Mass. Audubon’s Connecticut Valley Sanctuaries. “Join historian Mike Whalen for a fascinating rediscovery of the many natural and cultural wonders of Sanderson Brook Falls at [Chester-Blandford State Forest](#). Located on a tributary of the ‘wild and scenic’ Westfield River, and cascading 75 feet down solid granite, the falls offer an idyllic forest setting for outdoor exploration. Along the rugged trail, we’ll learn how the 1930s-era Civilian Conservation Corps dramatically transformed this area from a degraded industrial district into a destination for scenic recreation and wildlife restoration. This moderate-strenuous 3-mile hike will include gorgeous vistas of the Westfield River Valley from atop Observation Hill, and highlight plenty of local lore to satisfy the itinerant history buff.” Fee: Adults \$15/members, \$20/nonmembers. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to register or for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *“Wild Goose Chase” Canoe/Kayak race*, a 9-mile “out and back” race on the Housatonic River, sponsored by the [New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association](#) (NECKRA). “Narrow, shallow, lots of tight turns, deep water, suck water - we have it all!” All NECKRA racing categories for canoes and kayaks. (There is also a five-mile course for recreational and Stand-up paddlers.) \$15 per person. Race starts at 11:00 AM. The event takes place at the [Decker Boat Launch](#) in Lenox. Great lunch following the race. Click [here](#) or contact race organizer Patty Spector [patty.spector@verizon.net] (413) 637-2597 for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Deerfield RiverFest*, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM in Shelburne Falls, sponsored by the [Shelburne Falls Business Association](#) and the [Deerfield River Watershed Association](#). This year's theme is "Our Ever Changing Currents". The Festival is intended to educate and celebrate the Deerfield River Watershed. Enjoy vendors, performances and so much more! Activities include educational displays and demonstrations as well as live music and dancing, a colorful Frog & Flower Parade, aquatic bug table, art, crafts, tag, book and plant sales, food vendors, trolley rides, power plant tour, quiet water rafting and paddle boating, and more. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Mary Vilbon [info@shelburnefalls.com, (413)625-2526] for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – MILLERS RIVER – "*Dragonflies along the Millers River*", 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM in Athol, sponsored by the [Athol Bird and Nature Club](#). "Meet naturalists David Small and Lula Field at the [Millers River Environmental Center](#) (100 Main St. in Athol) for an afternoon of intensive dragonfly searching. Participants should bring snacks, insect net, and a sense of adventure; be prepared for wet feet. Children welcome with adult. Severe weather cancels. Click [here](#) or contact Dave Small [(978) 413-1772 or Dave@dhsml.net] for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Kite Festival on the Merrimack*, 11:00 AM – 3:00PM at Pemberton Park in downtown Lawrence, sponsored by [Groundwork Lawrence](#). The Kite Festival (now called the SALSA Festival) is a family-friendly event that includes free kite-making and kite-flying at [Pemberton Park](#), on the banks of the Merrimack River. Youth volunteers are needed to help with kite-making. The event also includes lunch (courtesy of the Summer Meals Program), face-painting, music and free trolley rides. To volunteer or learn more, click [here](#) or contact [Rosa](#) at (978) 974-0770 ext. 7001.

June 7 (Saturday) – MASHPEE RIVER – (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Mashpee River* in Mashpee, 10:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). "Paddle through the Mashpee Woodlands Conservation Area, perhaps seeing nesting marsh wrens and red winged blackbirds along the shoreline and always osprey overhead. It is a beautiful paddle, end to end." Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips, and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

June 7 (Saturday) – BASS RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Bass River 'fingers' paddle* in Dennis, sponsored by the [Southeastern Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Paddle the Bass River 'fingers' from Grand Cove to its mouth at Nantucket Sound, with a lunch stop at West Dennis Beach. Life Vest & Spray Skirt required. Directions: Rte 6 to exit 9, Route 134 South, R Upper County Rd., L Main St, R Cove Rd to landing at end. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click [here](#) or contact trip co-leaders Jean Orser [jeanorser@gmail.com] or Paul Corriveau [paulcorri@gmail.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 7 (Saturday) – BARNSTABLE HARBOR (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Sunset Kayak in Barnstable Harbor and Climb Sandy Neck Lighthouse*, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM in Barnstable, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#). "Join us as we kayak Cape Cod's largest barrier beach and salt marsh system and see for yourself why this is one of the state's most impressive coastal ecosystems. Traveling the great marsh by kayak offers a whole new perspective on nature, and an intimacy with the tide. It also allows you to get into shallow waters, where larger boats can't go! Launching from [Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#), we will explore the many tidal creeks and islands of the harbor, looking for shorebirds, osprey, horseshoe crabs and other creatures of the marsh. We'll come ashore at the Sandy Neck barrier beach lighthouse and have the unusual privilege of climbing to the top to see the beautiful view." Fee Adult (and children 12+ accompanied by parent): \$43/members, \$48/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 362-7475 to sign up or for more info. [Similar trip runs on [June 21](#).]

June 7-8 (Saturday – Sunday) – STATEWIDE – *Free Fishing Weekend*, sponsored by the [Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife](#). Take a friend or family member fishing! No fishing license needed during these two days! While you are enjoying the Free Fishing Weekend, please consider purchasing a fishing license. A fishing license is a wonderful investment in your state, as the fees support fisheries research, fish stocking programs, angler education, and many other services provided by MassWildlife. If you don't know how to fish, consider

attending a Fishing Festival or other fishing-related activities (click [here](#) for more info). All Angler Education programs and festivals are free and don't require a fishing license for fishing. Contact Jim Lagacy, Program Coordinator for more details at (508) 389-6309 or jim.lagacy@state.ma.us.

June 7-8 (Saturday – Sunday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Low Impact Canoe Camping* in the Deerfield section of the Connecticut, sponsored by the [Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Two days paddling in the Connecticut Valley, with an overnight on an island. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click [here](#) or contact trip leader David Miller [(508) 853-8964, pagayeur@verizon.net] to sign up or for more info.

June 7-8 (Saturday – Sunday) – OTTER and MILLERS RIVERS – *Bike Tour to/overnight camping at Otter River State Forest* in Templeton, sponsored by the [Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Get started with independent, unsupported cycle touring on this two day/one night tour. We will cycle approx. 30 miles per day on roads/bike paths to Otter River State Forest, where we will camp for one night. Participants will set up own tents, and cook/provide their own meals. Campground fees split between participants. Pre-registration is required for this trip; click [here](#) or contact trip leader Colleen McLaughlin [(508) 333-6025, amc_ne@yahoo.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD WATERSHED – *National Trails Day Hike at Savoy Mountain State Forest*, 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon in Savoy, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Connecticut Valley Wildlife Sanctuaries](#). Join Naturalist-Educator [Aimee Gelin](#) of Tamarack Hollow to “celebrate National Trails Day while exploring a unique high elevation bog. See insectivorous plants such as pitcher plants and sundews and learn about bog ecology and the high elevation forests of Savoy and Windsor. Meet at the Savoy Hollow General Store, 668 Main Rd (Rte. 116) in the center of Savoy, MA and we will caravan to the hike start point from there.” Fee: Adult \$10/members, \$15.00/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 584-3009 to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Sunday) – CONNECTICUT WATERSHED – *Guided birding expedition* at [Bear Swamp](#) in Ashfield, 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “A rare opportunity to visit this special property with [naturalist John Green](#). We will explore a variety of habitats looking and listening for breeding birds.” Click [here](#) or call (413) 532-1631 ext.10 to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Sunday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Groton Greenway River Festival*, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM, sponsored by the [Groton Greenway Committee](#). The Festival returns, complete with the famous cardboard canoe races. All events are free. There will be canoeing all day courtesy of [Nashoba Paddler LLC](#), lots of environmental displays and children's activities, and musical guests including Native American drummers. Food will be available for purchase. The Festival is held on the bank of the Nashua River at the [Petapawag boat launch, Nod Road, Groton](#). Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Pete Carson at pbcarson@charter.net for more info.

June 8 (Sunday) – FOX CREEK (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Kayak Fox Creek*, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM in Ipswich, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Have you ever wanted to kayak the winding waters that meander through the marsh between the Ipswich River and Essex Bay? Join us at Steep Hill Beach for this late-in-the-day adventure as we paddle Fox Creek, the oldest man-made tidewater canal in the United States! We'll see the ruins of the Robinson Shipyard, where over 200 ships were built and launched, and the grids of drainage ditches dug by WPA workers to control the mosquito population. Speaking of mosquitoes, you may wish to bring bug repellent for our journey, and sunblock and/or a hat if it's hot. Water is also good to have along. We will email a list of what to bring with your confirmation.” Fee: \$30/members, \$35/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (978) 356-4351 ext. 4052 to sign up or for more info.

June 8 (Sunday) – NEMASKET RIVER (TAUNTON WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Nemasket River* in Lakeville, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA). Meet at 10:30 AM at the put-in (the [Vaughn St. bridge over the Nemasket](#)) for the shuttle to the take-out. The narrow Nemasket River, a relatively pristine tributary of the Taunton River, flows through a mostly undeveloped countryside. This 12-mile paddle downstream includes a few quickwater stretches and a couple of easy portages. This paddle is suitable for boats 15 feet and under. Bring a lunch. Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Lee Parham [leeoparham@gmail.com or (508) 286-5999] for more info.

June 9 (Monday) – STATEWIDE – *Weathering the Storm: Boston's Future Climate*, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM at the Virginia Wimberley Theatre, [Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA](#) in Boston, and part of [The Future of Nature](#) speaker series, sponsored by the [Massachusetts office of The Nature Conservancy](#). “What will climate change mean for Boston and other coastal cities? How can we adapt to the impacts of climate change, even as we work to mitigate greenhouse gases emissions in the future? How can New England be more resilient in the face of sea level rise and stronger storms? Speakers include: [Adam Freed](#) of The Nature Conservancy; Vivien Li, president of the [Boston Harbor Association](#); Brian Swett of the [City of Boston](#); and [Vicki Arroyo](#) of the Georgetown Climate Center. Click [here](#) to register and [here](#) for more info on this and the other two events in this series.

June 10 (Tuesday) – QUIVETT CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Quivett Creek* from Paines Beach, Brewster, 10:00 AM (sharp) start, sponsored by the [Kayak and Walk Cape Cod Meetup Group](#). “We’ll paddle from Paine’s Creek Beach and hug the shore going west to the mouth of Quivett Creek. As we make our way up this wonderful creek, we’ll be surrounded by extensive marsh. Unlike Scorton Creek and Chase Garden, where the reeds and grasses are too tall to see over, the vegetation along Quivett Creek allows distant views at high tide”. Click [here](#) for basic info on this group and its paddling trips and [here](#) to sign up or for more specific info on this event.

June 10 (Tuesday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Water Quality Flagging Kick-off Party*, 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM at the [Riverside Boat Club](#) in Cambridge, sponsored by the [Charles River Watershed Association](#) (CRWA). This event precedes the commencement of [CRWA’s 2014 Water Quality Notification](#), or “Flagging” season, where anyone can come and learn more about the program and CRWA’s continued efforts to communicate Charles River water quality within the boating community. At the event, CRWA Senior Scientist Julie Dyer Wood will also outline changes to the program for the 2014 season. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited! [Please RSVP](#) by Monday, June 9, 2014. Click [here](#) for more info.

June 11 (Wednesday) – SHAWSHEEN RIVER – *Annual Meeting of the Shawsheen River Watershed Association*, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM in Bedford, sponsored by the [Shawsheen River Watershed Association](#). “Come join us for our annual meeting to hear what we’ve been doing and learn how to identify aquatic invasive plants from Mass. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation staff.” Click [here](#) or write to ShawsheenRiver@gmail.com for more info.

June 11 (Wednesday) – MALDEN RIVER (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – *Friends of the Malden River Meeting*, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM at the [Malden Public Library, Salem Street, in Malden](#). “Please join the Friends of the Malden River – a new citizens group committed to drawing the Malden River back to vibrant, civic life at our next meeting! For more information, see www.maldenriver.wordpress.com, including videos about the river and interviews with community members!” Click [here](#) for more info.

June 11 (Wednesday) – NEPONSET RIVER – *Annual Meeting of the Neponset River Watershed Association*, 6:30 PM start at the [Endicott Estate in Dedham](#). NepRWA’s 2014 Annual Meeting will feature guest speaker Beth Lambert of the [Mass. Department of Fish and Game’s Division of Environmental Restoration](#), who will discuss the history of dam building and removal; describe how dams impact river ecosystems; and share examples of completed dam removal projects around the state. She will also touch on some of the challenges and opportunities for salt marsh restoration. Click [here](#) or call (781) 575-0354 to sign up or for more info.

June 11 (Wednesday) – HERRING RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddling Herring River, North* in West Harwich, sponsored by the [Southeastern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “Paddle upstream to Coy Brook, East & West reservoirs, 8-9 miles. North bridge lunch. Life vests required. Spray skirts may be required.” Pre-registration required; click [here](#) or contact trip co-leaders Jean Orser [jeanorser@gmail.com] or Paul Corriveau [paulcorri@gmail.com] to sign up or for more info.

June 11 (Wednesday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – “1850s Feud” presentation, 7:00 PM start in Great Barrington, sponsored by the [Great Barrington Historical Society](#). “In collaboration with the ‘18th & 19th Century Water-Powered Industry in the Upper Housatonic River Valley Survey’, local historian and writer Bernard Drew will share the exciting and true story of a local feud that threatened the survival of two important Great Barrington industries. High powered industrialists, water rights, a court case and retaliation - this story has it all! The event takes place at the Teague Senior Center, 917 S. Main Street in Great Barrington.” Click [here](#) for more info.

June 12 (Thursday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – “The Village of Rockdale: The Typical Mill Village” walking tour, 6:30 PM start, sponsored by the [Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor](#). “The walking tour of Rockdale offers the visitor a wonderful mill village experience because the pieces of the ‘typical mill village’ are all still here. Symmetry. Balance. A photographer’s delight. Join Ranger Chuck Arning as the group explores what the Rhode Island System of Manufacturing looked and felt like in your typical mill village. We will utilize the large parking area by [St. Peter’s Parish, 39 Church Ave.](#), just off Rte. 122, in Rockdale” (in the town of Northbridge, MA). Click [here](#) for more info.

June 12 (Thursday) – CHARLES RIVER – “Moonlight Canoe Tour” in Newton/Auburndale, 7:00 PM start, offered by [Charles River Canoe and Kayak](#). “Dusk is a magical time to be on the water, so what could be more blissful than paddling a canoe by moonlight? We push off as the sun sets for an evening of relaxation, good food, and conversation. Our [boathouse in Newton](#), located on the flatwater [Lakes District of the Charles](#), is the perfect location for this opportunity to unwind. As the moon rises to light our way, we’ll watch herons browsing along the banks, river otters fishing for their last meal of the day, and other wildlife settling in for the night. Before and during your time on the water, your guide will share the rich history of the area, including the Canoe Clubs, Norumbega Park and the Totem Pole Ballroom, and our own historic boathouse. After cheese and crackers, light snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert, we will return to the boathouse. Bring warm clothing, as it can get chilly after the sun sets. Our Moonlight Tours are designed as a slow, relaxing group paddle suitable for folks of all paddling abilities. Be prepared to paddle a canoe 2–3 miles over the duration of the tour.” Advanced reservations are recommended; click [here](#) to sign up or for more info.

June 12 (Thursday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Moonrise Kayak Paddle*, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary](#), on Martha’s Vineyard. “See Sengekontacket Pond in a new light, moonlight, as we celebrate the different full moons of summer. With a guide, you will kayak on the pond as the sun sets and the moon rises. Kayaks, paddles and lifejackets are all included. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: \$70/members, \$90/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat (single boats are available – click [here](#) or call to reserve). Click [here](#) or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info.

June 13- 14 (Friday-Saturday) – HOUSATONIC WATERSHED – *Berkshire BioBlitz* at Fountain Pond State Park in Great Barrington. The [BioBlitz](#) (aka Biodiversity Days) is a 24-hour species inventory of a park or property. This year’s event will be held at the [Three Mile Hill Trail](#) at Fountain Pond State Park. The goal is to identify as many species as possible! Birds, reptiles, mammals, plants, fish... everything! Come on by to work side-by-side with professionals and scientists, celebrate biodiversity, and learn about the living things in your community! Click [here](#) or write to americorps@greenagers.org for more info.

June 13 (Friday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Women's Canoe Trip*, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the [Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies](#). Girls' night out! Enjoy canoeing the historic Slocum River. Transportation to launching site & all equipment provided. Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by Liz Moniz, Lloyd Center Outreach Director. Fee: \$20/members, \$25/nonmembers. Limit: 12. Pre-registration required; click [here](#) or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 13 (Friday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Guided Moonlight Kayak Tour*, 9:00 PM – 11:00 PM in Lowell, sponsored by the [UMass/Lowell Kayak Center](#). "Our moonlight tours are guided tours of the Merrimack River using the light of the full moon. An instructor will meet you at the Boathouse bay doors ([500 Pawtucket Ave.](#), Lowell). Paddling by moonlight offers a particularly peaceful experience, as the temperature cools and world quiets. All the light you need is there in the moon, and the glow sticks on front and back of our boats. You will be surprised by how much you can see and share a special experience that you will remember forever. Please come 15 minutes early if you would like kayaking instruction. Please register in advance, as the group size is limited to 12 people." Fee: \$30/person. Click [here](#) or call Rachel at (978) 934-1932 to sign up or for more info.

June 13-14 (Friday – Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Fifth Annual Waltham Riverfest*, in downtown Waltham. [Riverfest](#) is a celebration of the wonderful resources, both natural and artistic, that run through the heart of Waltham. Activities include music, dancing, painting, strolling, shopping, eating, and boating the entire weekend, as well as a [canoe tour on Friday evening](#). This year there will be new and exciting additions to the music and entertainment. The Moody Street Bridge will have Art Vendors along the length of it on Saturday. There will also be a guided river walk on Saturday morning by the [Waltham Land Trust](#). Send an e-mail to info@downtownwaltham.org if you'd like to volunteer, or click [here](#) for more info.

June 14– June 20

June 14 (Saturday) – HOOSIC RIVER – *River Walk Tour* in North Adams, 11:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Hoosic River Revival](#). This free, guided walk along the Hoosic River takes about an hour. Meet at the [MassMoCA Parking Lot, Marshall Street, in North Adams](#). Click [here](#), call (413) 212-2996 or write to info@hoosicriverrevival.org for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Paddle from below Rising Pond dam, Housatonic to the Housatonic Flats Reserve, Great Barrington*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Housatonic Valley Association](#). Paddle from below the Rising Pond Dam to a potential new access site in Great Barrington situated on the Housatonic Flats Reserve, a property recently acquired by Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC). Along the way, learn about the history and ecology of the river. Pre-registration is required; contact Alison Dixon [(413) 394-9796 or adixon@hvatoday.org] to sign up or for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC WATERSHED – *Jackson Pond bird walk*, 7:00 AM– 9:00 AM in Stockbridge, sponsored by the [Berkshire Natural Resources Council](#). "A slow-paced bird walk. We'll search for birds in field edges, mature forest, and a beautiful wetland. We'll access Jackson Pond on a boardwalk - a great way to get out in the middle of this amazing natural area. This hike is appropriate for nearly all abilities. Directions: Meet at the Stockbridge Bowl boat launch on Route 183, south of Kripalu and Berkshire Country Day School." Contact Doug [dbruce@bnrc.net or (413) 499-0596] for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *"Bikes and Quartzites" workshop*, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee](#). Geology-focused bike ride with Geology Professor Richard Little, Ph. D., along the East Branch Trail. The bike ride is on an old dirt road, with frequent stops to admire the river and its rocks. It is about 8 miles round trip, with a nice lunch break at the inner gorge. Click [here](#) or contact Meredyth Babcock at (413) 623-2070 or volunteer@westfieldriverwildscenic.org to sign up or for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – OTTER RIVER (MILLERS WATERSHED) – *Paddle Access Point Clean up and optional paddle* in Gardner and Templeton, 9:30 AM start, co-sponsored by the [Millers River Watershed Council](#) (MRWC) and the Gardner Conservation Commission. Come help clean up the Otter River Conservation Area near the Gardner Airport entrance (see [map](#)). (Airport Road in Gardner is located off Route 2A, near Kendall Pond and the Templeton town line.) Bring gloves if you have them. Snacks will be provided and there will be an optional paddle at 12:30 PM – bring your boat and lunch if you plan to paddle. Please contact MRWC [council@millersriver.net or (978) 248-9491] so we can get a head count.

June 14 (Saturday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *Rail Trail bike ride or Water Trail paddle* in Holland and Brimfield, sponsored by the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers East Brimfield Lake Project](#). In celebration of [National Get Outdoors Day](#), join the [Holland Trail Committee](#) for an easy, 10-mile bike ride on a gravel-packed rail trail, or bring your canoe or kayak for a paddle on the [5 mile flatwater river trail](#), led by an Army Corps park ranger. Click [here](#) or contact Tom Chamberland [(508) 347-3705, thomas.a.chamberland@usace.army.mil] for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Great Falls Discovery Center Family Fishing Day*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Turners Falls, sponsored by the [Silvio Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge](#) in cooperation with the [Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife](#). “Join the fun at [Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A in Turners Falls](#), for a free, non-competitive, family friendly, learn-to-fish event that is open to the public. Bring your fishing equipment, or borrow ours; limited equipment and bait will be provided.” Click [here](#) or contact Laurel Carpenter [(413) 863-3221 or laurel_carpenter@fws.gov] for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Fish Printing for Families* at the [Turners Falls Fishway](#), 12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the [Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center](#). Print your very own T-shirt or tote bag and discover the intricate beauty and important function of fish fins and scales. Learn about resident fish as well as fish that return to the Connecticut River to lay their eggs. Drop in anytime between noon and 2 PM at the Turners Falls Fishway to create your work of art using scientifically accurate replicas of Connecticut River fish. Remember to bring a T-shirt or other material to use for fish printing. Fish T-shirts make great Father’s Day presents. Please wear clothes that can get stained. This event is part of the [Family Fish Day at the Great Falls Discovery Center](#) (see above listing). Families may want to bring along a picnic and enjoy our beautiful riverside picnic area adjacent to the fishway. For ages 6 and older. The event is free and no-pre-registration is required; click [here](#) for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – *Eighth Annual Nashua River Flatwater Canoe and Kayak Race* in Groton, sponsored by the [New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association](#) (NECKRA). Several entry classes available for 10-mile long course and 4-mile short course. Registration begins at 9:00 AM; race begins at 11:00 AM. Barbeque after the race. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Stephen Miller [(978) 771-1821 or stephen.miller@pobox.com] for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Paddle the River in Middleton*, 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, sponsored by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#). Join local paddling experts from the [Middleton Stream Team](#) for a [river adventure](#), going downstream from Farnsworth Landing (on Route 114) to Peabody Street. Please bring your own boat, PFD, lunch and water. RSVP to cingelfinger@ipswichriver.org or call (978) 412-8200.

June 14 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Father’s Day Weekend Canoe & Breakfast*, 7:00 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary](#). Celebrate Father’s Day early with a relaxing canoe trip! Watch the morning mist rising off the water. Keep an eye out for great blue herons and other birds gliding over the water. Enjoy the beautiful views as we paddle through Rocky Narrows Reservation and Broadmoor to the South Natick Dam. A hearty breakfast will be served midway on the banks of the river. Canoes, paddles, lifejackets, a basic paddling overview & guides are all provided. Fee: Adults \$45/members; \$55/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

June 14 (Saturday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Guided Kayak Paddle*, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary](#), on Martha's Vineyard. "Join a Felix Neck naturalist on an exciting kayak adventure on Sengekontacket Pond. Paddle by Sarson's Island to see nesting shorebirds. Watch American oystercatchers, cormorants and shorebirds feed and frolic. Explore the salt marsh and search for pond wildlife. All trips focus on the natural history of saltwater communities found on Martha's Vineyard." Kayaks, paddles and lifejackets are all included. Must be age 11 or older, accompanied by an adult, to paddle. Fee: \$60/members, \$80/nonmembers. Fee is for 2 people in a tandem boat (single boats are available – click [here](#) or call to reserve). Click [here](#) or call (508) 627-4850 to sign up or for more info. [Similar trips run on [June 17](#), [June 19](#), [June 21](#), [June 24](#), [June 26](#), [June 28](#), [July 1](#), [July 3](#) and [July 5](#).]

June 14 (Saturday) – BARNSTABLE HARBOR (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayak Barnstable Harbor and Climb Sandy Neck Lighthouse*, 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM in Barnstable, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#). "Join us as we kayak Cape Cod's largest barrier beach and salt marsh system and see for yourself why this is one of the state's most impressive coastal ecosystems. Traveling the great marsh by kayak offers a whole new perspective on nature, and an intimacy with the tide. It also allows you to get into shallow waters, where larger boats can't go! Launching from [Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#), we will explore the many tidal creeks and islands of the harbor, looking for shorebirds, osprey, horseshoe crabs and other creatures of the marsh. We'll come ashore at the Sandy Neck barrier beach lighthouse and have the unusual privilege of climbing to the top to see the beautiful view." Fee: Adult (and children 12+ accompanied by parent): \$43/members, \$48/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 362-7475 to sign up or for more info.

June 14 – 15 (Saturday–Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Dragon Boat Festival* in Boston and Cambridge, 9:00AM- 5:00 PM, sponsored by the [Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival of Boston](#). The Dragon Boat Festival is a centuries-old cultural and sporting event, and the Boston club has been making it local for many years. The festival features boat races, arts and crafts, Asian cuisine, and it is free and open to the public. Click [here](#) for up-to-date info and [here](#) for more info on dragon boats in Boston.

June 15 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Garlic Mustard Pull*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by the [Newton Conservators](#). "We have expanded our efforts to control beginnings of infestations inside the beautiful [Hemlock Gorge Reservation](#) and also in the adjoining lovely walking trail along the Charles River at Quinobequin Rd. Help us keep the Garlic Mustard out of these beautiful parks! In case of poison ivy, wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the plants must be disposed of as trash, not as yard waste. Meet at the parking lot at corner of Quinobequin Rd and Ellis St. at Rte 9 intersection. Leaders are Jerry Reilly and Katherine Howard [(617) 527-1796 (home) or 617-721-2571 (cell)]." Click [here](#) for more info.

June 15 (Sunday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Father's Day Watershed Bike Ride* in Westport, sponsored by the [Westport River Watershed Alliance](#). Circumnavigate the Westport River Watershed (approximately 42 miles), through the northern forest lands of the Bioreserve to the coastal beauty of both branches of the Westport River. Shorter family ride free for kids under 12 when accompanied by a registered adult. A t-shirt and snacks will be provided for all registered participants. Register from 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM at the Buzzards Bay Brewery, 98 Horseneck Road, Westport. "This is a great way to spend time with your family and friends as you cruise the back roads and support a great organization." Pre-registration is \$40/member, \$50/non-member, and day of, \$50/member, \$60/non-member. Click [here](#) or call (508) 636-3016 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Sunday) – ALLOWANCE BROOK (SUDBURY WATERSHED) – *Great Blue Heron Rookery field trip*, 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM in Sudbury, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary](#). "The [Sudbury Valley Trustees' Lyons-Cutler Reservation](#), located along Allowance Brook in Sudbury, contains wetlands and beautiful red maple, mixed oak and white pine uplands. The upland forest descends gently to a swamp with a Great Blue Heron rookery where we can get very close views of the domestic life of the herons and hear their growling offspring. Around the swamp we could also see Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Tree

and Rough-winged Swallow, Red-Winged Blackbird, Kingfisher, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Flicker, and Eastern Bluebird. The hike through the woods could produce several species of warblers, Wood Thrush, Brown Creeper, Baltimore Oriole, Brown Thrasher, Blue-Headed Vireo, and migrating flycatchers of various species.” Fee: Adults \$20/members, \$24/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (781) 259-2200 to register or for more info.

June 15 (Sunday) – WEST RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Paddle the West River* in Uxbridge, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA). Suitable for boats 15 feet long and under. Meet at 9:30 AM for a 10:00 AM launch. “You’ll have the chance to see lots of wildlife as you paddle upstream and back through this stretch of clean, clear flatwater. The West River has excellent water quality and is one of our rivers that is clean enough to swim in the Blackstone Valley.” Bring a lunch. Directions to the put-in: From Route 146 (North or South), take the Route 16 Exit. Take Rte. 16 East for 2 miles, through the Rt. 16/Rt. 122 intersection in downtown Uxbridge. Continue on Rte. 16 for 1 more mile. Look for a red building on the left. Take a left onto West River Road, the street immediately following the red building approximately 200 feet and park in the gravel lot on the right side of road. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the [Message Board](#) as well as your e-mail and the [website](#) for updates. Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Frank Cortesa [frankcortesa@charter.net or (508) 369-8205] for more info.

June 15 (Sunday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Hike through the Deer Jump Reservation* in Andover, 1:30 PM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “Enjoy a scenic walk along the Merrimack River. We may catch some Mountain Laurel in bloom.” Heavy rain cancels. Directions: Take I-93, Exit 45 (River Road). Proceed west on River Road for 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Launching Road. Travel 0.25 miles to the trail head on the right just past #15 Launching Rd. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click [here](#) or contact the trip leader Fred Snell [(978) 686-3647 (best time to call: Before 9:00 PM), fredsnell@gmail.com] for more info.

June 15 (Sunday) – IPSWICH RIVER – *Flatwater paddle* in Topsfield, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “Meet at the Topsfield Fairgrounds Parking Lot Entrance on Route 1 in Topsfield. You should see a number of vehicles there with canoes on the roof. We will shuttle from there to the launch, which is on Rowley Bridge Road. Then we shuttle the vehicles to the take out, which is at the Bradley Palmer State Forest. We get on the river by 10:00 AM and take out about 3:30 to 4:00 PM. Bring: canoe or kayak, lunch, drink, water, sun screen, bug repellent, eyeglasses retainer strap, sun hat, life jacket If you need a boat, please let the leaders know ASAP. If you want to car pool, please let the leaders know ASAP.” While pre-registration is not required for [this activity](#), you may want to click [here](#) or contact the trip leader [Kenneth Kaiser, (978) 664-5984 (best time to call: Before 9 PM); kkaiser@alum.mit.edu] with any questions.

June 15 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Father’s Day canoe trip* at [Bartholomew’s Cobble](#) in Sheffield, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Paddle the winding Housatonic to view the beauty of this meandering river as it passes through agricultural fields and floodplain forests. Watch for bald eagles flying over Bartholomew’s Cobble. With your guide, learn about the river’s history and what is happening to restore some of its most precious habitats and species from its upper reaches in Pittsfield through Massachusetts and into Connecticut. Paddles, life preservers, and boats are provided.” Fee: Adult \$24; Child (10-16) \$10 (members); Adult \$30; Child (10-16) \$15 (nonmembers). Click [here](#) or call (413) 229-8600 to sign up or for more info.

June 15 (Sunday) – HUBBARD RIVER (FARMINGTON WATERSHED) – *Hubbard River Gorge Hike*, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Granville, sponsored by [The Naturalists Club](#). “On this walk/hike, we’ll explore the Hubbard River Gorge, formerly the hunting and fishing grounds of the Tunxis Native Americans. In 1749 the first white settler in the area, Samuel Hubbard, made his home along the banks of the river that now bears his name. This pristine, high-quality waterway is home to one of Massachusetts’ native fish species, the brook trout. The river begins its journey to the sea in the hills surrounding Cobble Mountain, then drops 450 feet over some 2.5 miles as it makes its way to Barkhamsted Reservoir in Connecticut. For much of its course, the river

flows through [Granville State Forest](#), an underappreciated jewel among Western Mass. state forests. We'll begin our walk along a gated forest road, and then follow the river south toward Connecticut. When we've had our fill, we'll go back the way we came. Dress appropriately and wear sturdy footwear." Contact trip leader Bill Fontaine [(413) 533-2153] to sign up, or click [here](#) (see p.7) for more info.

June 17 – July 3 – PARKER, NORTH COASTAL, IPSWICH, SHAWSHEEN, SUDBURY and SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHEDS – 2014 Massachusetts Walking Tour, an annual non-profit bipedal concert tour of Massachusetts in support of arts and culture. A group of acoustic musicians (click [here](#) for a sample tune) walks from town to town and then performs free community concerts, collaborating with local artists, musicians, educational programs, trail managers and land trust groups to highlight both artistic diversity and recreational land use. This year's Tour will follow the route of (and is intended to benefit) the [Bay Circuit Trail and Greenway](#), which includes many rivers, streams and wetlands. Click [here](#) for more info.

June 18 (Wednesday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Housatonic Flats walk*, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Great Barrington, sponsored by the [Berkshire Natural Resources Council](#). "Housatonic Flats boasts over a half mile of frontage on the Housatonic River, making it perfect for wildlife viewing and fishing. The mown path skirts oxbow wetlands and tall floodplain forests of cottonwoods along with red and silver maples". This will be a 1.5-mile, easy-paced walk on mowed paths over relatively flat terrain. Directions to the trailhead: From the center of Great Barrington, take Rt. 7N. Take a left into the parking area, 1/2 mile past Barrington Plaza (Price Chopper). Carpooling is always appreciated. Click [here](#) or write to mleavitt@bnrc.net for more info.

June 19 (Thursday) – STATEWIDE – *Identifying Inland Wetland Soils* course, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in Amherst, hosted by the [UMass Extension's Landscape, Nursery & Urban Forestry Program](#). "Participants will be introduced to some of the fundamental characteristics of soils that are used to identify hydric (wetland) soils in the field — including soil texture, color, horizon type and redoximorphic features. The afternoon will include a field trip to a local wetland where participants will examine plants and soils along a wetland/non-wetland gradient. Plant communities will be used to locate transitional wetland-upland areas in the landscape for further investigation of their soil characteristics. Participants should have taken [Part 1](#) of this series, or be able to identify wetland vegetation (by permission of instructor)." Instructor: Dr. Deborah Picking. Fee: The cost for this workshop is \$100; click [here](#) to sign up or for more info. [Note the related course on 6/5.]

June 19 (Thursday) – NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED – "*Evening with the Herons*", 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the [Coolidge Reservation](#) in Manchester-by-the-Sea, co-sponsored by [Mass. Audubon](#) and [The Trustees of Reservations](#). "View the amazing spectacle of the evening flight of herons, egrets, and ibises returning to their night roost into the largest heronry in Massachusetts, just off the coast of Coolidge Point. Bring your picnic dinner to enjoy while we discuss the life-and-death struggle in the colony." Fee: \$18/members, \$24/nonmembers. Click [here](#), [here](#) or call (978) 281-8400 to sign up or for more info.

June 19 (Thursday) – BLACKSTONE RIVER – "*The Fisherville/ECO Machine*" walking tour, 6:30 PM start, sponsored by the [Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor](#). "Fisherville was once home to a mighty textile mill. Today it is home to the '[Eco-Machine](#)': a water treatment system that uses water plants and mycelium to break down the oil, chemicals and nitrates that have polluted the Blackstone Canal. Join our partners from the Blackstone River Coalition at Mill Villages Park to learn more about the history of Fisherville and this new way of helping to protect and preserve the Blackstone Watershed. Park at [Mill Villages Park](#), 61 Main Street (Rte. 122A), Fisherville (South Grafton), MA. Click [here](#) for more info.

June 19 (Thursday) – HERRING RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayak Trip: Herring River, Harwich*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary](#). "Explore the winding tidal rivers, quiet bays, and scenic marshes of Cape Cod with an experienced paddler during this three-hour kayak trip. The Herring River is the mid-Cape's largest freshwater system. The town of Harwich and the Harwich Conservation Trust have worked to preserve much of the shorelines and surrounding uplands of this special place. We will skirt the cedar swamps as we paddle from freshwater to brackish to saltwater. An extensive cattail swamp allows close encounters with nesting birds, such as red-winged

blackbirds and marsh wrens. Many song birds are observed in nearby woodlands and something is always blooming or changing color.” Fee: Adults (and children 12-17 accompanied by an adult): \$45/members, \$49/non-members. “Participants may choose among available single, tandem, and sea kayaks, or bring their own kayak to save \$10. All equipment is provided; all participants must wear life jackets. We recommend that you bring sunscreen, windbreaker, hat, and drinking water. There are no facilities, such as restrooms or water fountains, at the meeting places.” Pre-registration is required; previous (recent) paddling experience and good swimming ability are also required. Click [here](#) or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

June 19-22 (Thursday-Sunday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – “Turtles of the Outer Cape”, a [Cape Cod Field School](#) four-day course, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary](#).

“This course is designed to offer unique opportunities to learn more the turtles of Cape Cod with an emphasis on two species--the eastern box turtle, a species of special concern, and the threatened diamondback terrapin--as well as provide a ‘hands-on’ introduction to wildlife research methods. For over 30 years we have been studying the populations of box turtles and terrapins in Wellfleet Bay. Through nesting surveys, mark and recapture studies, radio telemetry, and habitat and prey analysis, we have built a solid foundation of data to begin understanding the life histories of these animals and the human impacts affecting them. Over the course of the four action-packed days you will become actively involved in adding to this collection of data. We will teach you how to use telemetry equipment to find radio-tagged box turtles on our property. Field walks along the salt marshes and in the uplands are scheduled to search for nesting female diamondback terrapins and record their activities. Using dip nets and canoes, we catch terrapins in the salt marsh creeks. Once caught, they will be weighed, measured, marked and then released. Be prepared to get wet and muddy!” The course is taught by Barbara Brennessel (Professor, Researcher, and Author of *Diamonds in the Marsh*); Bob Prescott (Sanctuary Director, WBWS); and Don Lewis (aka “The Turtle Guy”). Click [here](#) or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

June 20 (Friday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – *Guided Sunset Kayak Tour*, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM in Lowell, sponsored by the [UMass/Lowell Kayak Center](#). “On this guided tour, an instructor will meet you at the Boathouse bay doors ([500 Pawtucket Ave.](#), Lowell) at 7:00 PM and paddle upstream on the Merrimack River. Although the boathouse is located downtown, the Merrimack offers a quiet oasis, and it will be hard to believe you are still in the city. We will take a side-trip up a nearby creek and under an old mill before watching the sky blaze in a colorful sunset. In the twilight we will float gently back to the Boathouse. Please come 15 minutes early if you would like kayaking instruction. Please register in advance today, as the group size is limited to 10 people.” Fee: \$30/person. Click [here](#) or call Rachel at (978) 934-1932 to sign up or for more info.

June 20-21 (Friday-Saturday) – DEERFIELD WATERSHED – *Green Roof, Rain Garden and Permaculture Workshop* in Shelburne Falls, sponsored by the [Landscape Institute](#). “Join us at [The Beaver Lodge](#) (LEED Platinum) in Shelburne Falls, MA for a two day design-build intensive focused on native plant material, green roofs and rain gardens. Led by the Landscape Institute faculty [Marie Stella](#), the weekend will expand your knowledge of ‘The Sustainable Sites Initiative’ guidelines, include a tour of a wetland and native plant nurseries, and culminate in the completion of a small green roof on a children’s playhouse.” Registration in advance is required; click [here](#) to register or for more info.

June 20-22 (Friday-Sunday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *2014 Deerfield River DemoFest* in Charlemont, sponsored by [Zoar Outdoor](#). “Try out the latest whitewater kayaks, canoes and SUPs (stand-up paddle boats) at DemoFest, Zoar Outdoor’s 3-day whitewater event ...Free instruction from top paddlers, demos of the hottest whitewater boats on the market and hardcore paddling videos - it’s all at the 10th annual DemoFest at Zoar Outdoor. The manufacturers that we represent will provide the latest whitewater gear for you to demo at no charge. Manufacturer representatives, pro paddlers, Team Z and Zoar Outdoor instruction staff will teach free mini-clinics.” NOTE: this event is for **experienced paddlers only**. Click [here](#) or write to info@zoaroutdoor.com for more info.

June 20-22 (Friday-Sunday) – MYSTIC RIVER – “Into the Mystic” Environmental Art and Film Festival, hosted by the [Medford Arts Center, Inc.](#) (MACI) and taking place at [Hyatt Place, 116 Riverside Ave in Medford](#). The festival is a collaboration of MACI, Green Medford, Mystic River Watershed Association, The City of Medford’s Office of Energy and Environment, and the Friends of the Mystic River. Festival events include an opening night reception (Friday, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM) with films *Hidden Rivers of Southern Appalachia*, *Re-storying the Anacostia River*, and *The Mystic Unseen*; and (on Saturday at 7:00 PM) a showing of the Festival’s feature film, *The Mystic Herring Run: The Return of 2012 and Beyond*, with filmmaker Shervin A. Arya. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact Mike Oliver [info@mysticartgallery.org or (617) 605-7325] for more info.

June 20-21 (Friday - Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – Essex River Day. This event was created to encourage those who have a boat to offer neighborly boat rides to those who may not have a boat and don’t have ready access to appreciating the wonders of the Essex River. [Please email psilva@essexma.org or call the Harbormaster at the non-emergency telephone number (978) 768-6511 if you have available space on your boat or if you would like to be matched with a host captain and crew for a ride.] The event has since expanded into a full day of events, culminating with a pick-up softball game for all ages, a cook out with vendors, live music and a bonfire at Memorial Park ([24 Martin Street in Downtown Essex](#)). Click [here](#) (scroll down to June 21) for more info.

> [return to top of document](#)

June 21 – June 27

June 21 (Saturday) – MALDEN RIVER (MYSTIC WATERSHED) – Malden River Walking Tour, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Malden. Join the [Mystic River Watershed Association](#) (MyRWA) and the [Preservation Collaborative](#)’s [Industrial Eden](#) Program to learn about the industrial history of Spot Pond Brook and the Malden River. Ryan Hayward and MyRWA are leading a walking tour of the Park at River’s Edge. The walk is free and open to the public. Meet at [200 Rivers Edge Drive in Medford](#) for this tour. Click [here](#) for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – SUDBURY RIVER – Great Meadows Family Fishing Day in Sudbury, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the [Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife](#). “Join the fun at the [Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge](#), 73 Weir Hill Road in Sudbury, for a free, non-competitive, family friendly, learn-to-fish event. Bring your fishing equipment, or borrow ours; limited equipment and bait will be provided.” Contact Kizette OrtizVangar at (978) 562-3527 ext.117 or Kizette_ortizvanger@fws.gov for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – Nashua River Festival, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by the [Lancaster Friends of the Nashua River](#). This free event will take place on the Cully Field property bordering the Nashua River (directly across from the [Lancaster Fairgrounds](#)) along Route 117 in Lancaster. The River Festival offers families and individuals the chance to get out and enjoy a day of fun activities on the banks of the Nashua River, one of the most beautiful natural resources in the town of Lancaster. The field will be full of LOTS of fun family activities plus feature a musical tent where groups will be playing all day long. The Festival also will include Canoe Rides (Still River Outfitters), Livestock and Petting Zoo (Lancaster 4-H), educational displays by Mass. Audubon and Mass. Fish and Wildlife, a BBQ (Lancaster Boy Scouts) and Ice Cream (Juniper Farms). Click [here](#) or contact Peter Stanton at (508) 523-5916 or pstanton@wbjournal.com for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – NASHUA RIVER – Canoe the Nashua River and the Lancaster River Festival, 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM, sponsored by Mass. Audubon’s Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary. Adults and families are invited to come out and enjoy a downstream, flat-water paddle on the Nashua River, meandering through the superbly scenic [Bolton Flats Wildlife Management Area](#). This program will begin and conclude at the annual [Lancaster Nashua River Festival](#) (see above listing). Canoes, PFDs, and paddles are provided. Fee: Adult \$12/member, \$18/non-member; Child \$8/member, \$12/non-member. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (978) 464-2712 to sign up or for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – WESTFIELD RIVER – *Westfield River Canoe and Kayak Cruise*, sponsored by the [Westfield River Watershed Association](#). This annual (mostly flatwater) paddle from downtown Westfield to [Robinson State Park](#) in Agawam will be held in conjunction with **Robinson State Park Day** (hosted by the [Friends of Robinson State Park](#)). The put-in is a quarter-mile downstream of the new Great River Bridge (boat drop off at the end of Fowler St., off Meadow Street just south of the river and east of the Great River Bridge; with parking at the SE corner of the Great River Bridge area). Registration runs from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. Participants will register, unload boats and gear, drive their vehicles to Robinson State Park and return to the launch area by shuttle, with staggered launches beginning at 11:00 AM. Organizers recommend that participants be experienced paddlers, given that river conditions may be unpredictable. Bring your own canoe/kayak and life jacket(s), sunscreen and drinking water. There is a fee for this event (\$10/person or \$20/family), to cover the cost of insurance and refreshments at the end of this 2-3 hour paddle, which has a more natural feel than you'd expect given that the route basically parallels the heavily traveled Route 20. Paddlers can also check out the 2:30 PM short hike on the park's Yellow trail to the Westfield River's edge, crossing Veronica Brook and ending at park headquarters, as well as the 3:30 PM dedication of a park beautification project to late attorney Alexandra Dawson, a passionate advocate for the environment and for protection of wetlands and a friend to Robinson State Park. Click [here](#) or contact Fran Siska [(413) 562-4998, fsiska@comcast.net] for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Summer Solstice Sunset– Moonrise Kayak*, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM, sponsored by the [Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center](#). At the summer solstice, poet Mary Oliver asks, "... what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" Perhaps we can begin by celebrating the birth of summer on a paddle through the sunset and moon-rise? The peak of day length and the sun's energy also has profound impacts on the plants and animals that live year-round in the Cove. During this evening paddle, we'll share poems about the turning of the seasons and observe how plants and animals of the Cove may view the day. Two nights before the Full Strawberry Moon, we also hope to paddle in both sunlight and moonlight as we immerse our-selves in the longest day of the year. This program is appropriate for both beginning and experienced paddlers. Fee: FREE with own kayak, \$25/boat with kayak rental (tandem kayaks available). Click [here](#) or call (toll-free) (800) 859-2960 to sign up or for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – MILLER RIVER – *Orange Solstice Riverfest*, sponsored by the Orange Lions Club and the Orange Business Association. The event includes "an Illuminated Parade of Boats, Bonfire, Floating Firepits on the River, Great Local Food and Music, Children's Activities, Yoga by the Water, JumpTown Parachuters, and more!" Click [here](#) or call (508) 277-5836 for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – *"Rain Gardens and More: Effective Uses of Rainwater"* workshop, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM in Acton, sponsored by the [New England Wild Flower Society](#). "Would you like to learn to protect our precious water resources while creating lush gardens using native plants that attract birds and butterflies? Using water flowing from your roof, driveway, or lawn, rain gardens take full advantage of our natural rainfall rather than wasting it as runoff. You will tour a beautiful twenty-acre, 24-home cohousing community in a rural setting, where a varied, mostly native plant landscape has been in place for 17 years. You'll explore site features that include rain garden terraces, rain barrels, retention basins, swales, and durable, no-water, organic lawns. You will also learn about rainwater design options and construction methods and discuss strategies for solving runoff problems such as erosion, icy walkways, or wet basements. The course instructor is Dori Smith of Gardens for Life. Fee: \$26/member, \$32/non-member. Click [here](#) or call (508) 877-7630 ext. 3303 to register or for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Coastal Farming Walking Tour*, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM at [Cogswell's Grant](#) (60 Spring Street, Essex), sponsored by [Historic New England](#). "Join us for a walking tour that explores the property's history as a working farm from the seventeenth century to the present. Although the last owners, Bertram and Nina Fletcher Little, used the property as a summer home and filled the farmhouse with their collection of antiques, the farm was an important part of their life and they benefited year-round from its produce. Walk through fields and down to the marsh, discover the rich history of

the families that lived and farmed here, and learn how coastal farming has evolved over the centuries.” Click [here](#) or call (978) 768-3632 for more info.

June 21 (Saturday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Essex River tidal paddle*, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Wampanoag Paddlers](#). “Put-in on the north end of the Essex causeway where there is a launching ramp. Parking would be several hundred yards away as resident stickers are needed to park near the ramp. The trip will go out the Essex river with the tide, go past Conomo Point, where we will leave the channel and bear to port to the back side of Crane’s Beach. There we will have lunch, swim and relax. The return trip would also go with the incoming tide, around Hog Island to the Essex side of Conomo Point and back in the Essex River. Those wishing to can go for a seafood dinner at Woodman’s or Farnham’s afterwards. Arrive at least 1/2 hour early to get organized and park your vehicle.” Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Chris Febiger [cfebiger@yahoo.com], (781) 235-6112 (home), (781) 697-7742 (cell)] for more info.

June 21-22 (Saturday-Sunday) – SUDBURY/ASSABET/CONCORD RIVERS – *13th Annual Riverfest*, sponsored by the [Concord, Assabet, & Sudbury Wild & Scenic River Stewardship Council](#). The Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers provide a range of recreational opportunities to those within the greater Boston area. A natural respite, the river offers occasions for hiking, birding, fishing and boating. It is also a great educational resource to teach students about ecology of river systems. This year’s Riverfest celebration includes over 45 events in 10 communities and is open to all who want to experience the beautiful rivers. Enjoy canoeing or kayaking, fishing, picnicking, hiking along the shore, listening to music, taking a photo – whatever you like to do! This is a rare opportunity to enjoy a full weekend of activities free of charge! Click [here](#) for more info.

June 21-28 – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *Cape Cod Paddling Week*, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA). “Join us for a week of paddling the coastal waterways of Cape Cod. All paddling trips will be in protected bays, inlets, harbors and rivers. Participants must be able to handle 5-10 miles of paddling, and there may be days of paddling against current and wind. Sea kayaks and recreational kayaks 12 feet or longer will be best for most trips. We will be camping at Shady Knoll Campground in Brewster. Paddlers will need a canoe or kayak that is appropriate for the conditions, paddle, PFD, paddle float, pump, and spare clothes. You will also need camping equipment, including a tent, sleeping bag and cooking gear. You are responsible for your own food.” Contact trip leader Louise Price [weezrad@yahoo.com] to sign up or for more info. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the [Message Board](#) for updates.

June 22 (Sunday) – MILLERS RIVER – *Annual Solstice Paddle at the Orange Solstice Riverfest*, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM, sponsored by the [Millers River Watershed Council](#). If you need to rent a boat, contact Peak Paddlesports at (413) 648-7673 or go to www.peakpaddlesports.com and plan to be at the Orange Boathouse at 10:00 AM. If you have your own boat, arrive at [Rich Park/Cass Meadow](#) in Athol at 10:30 AM. If you want to order lunch, be sure to notify Peak. Rides will be available after the paddle to bring people from Orange back to Athol.

June 22 (Sunday) – QUINEBAUG RIVER – *Canoe or Kayak the Quinebaug River Canoe Trail*, sponsored by the [Allen Bird Club](#). The five-mile-long Quinebaug canoe Trail meanders through extensive freshwater marshes. This trip is “BYOB” (bring your own boat). Click [here](#) or contact trip leader Donna Morrison [(413) 596-3537] for more details.

June 22 (Sunday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Birding at the Housatonic Wildlife Management Area and October Mountain*, Lenox, 6:00 AM (!) start, sponsored by the [South Shore Bird Club](#). “Mourning Warblers are a specialty on this trip, as well as other warblers and vireos. Recently there have been singing Olive-sided Flycatchers present.” Meet at the WMA parking lot on New Lenox Road (see [map](#)), just before the bridge over the Housatonic. Contact trip leader Glenn d’Entremont (gdentremont1@comcast.net) for more info.

June 22 (Sunday) – MUDDY RIVER (CHARLES WATERSHED) – “Explore Boston’s Back Bay Fens, Rose Garden, and Riverway” walk, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). Meet at corner of Huntington Ave. & Museum Rd. (Museum stop on Green Line “E”). Bring lunch & water. Heavy rain cancels. No dogs; non-AMC members \$1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click [here](#) or contact the trip leader [Sharon Marshall, (617) 542-4551 (best time to call: 7-9 pm)] with any questions.

June 22 (Saturday) – POWOW and MERRIMACK RIVERS – Historic/Scenic walk in Amesbury, 9:00 AM start, sponsored by the [American Volkssport Association](#) and the [Walk ’N Mass Volkssport Club](#). “Part of a Tristate weekend of events in New Hampshire, Maine and Massachusetts and celebrating the summer solstice. The routes in Amesbury, MA traverse paved city streets through the historic downtown. Enjoy walking Amesbury’s Riverwalk along the Powwow River. The 10km route also includes a section along the Merrimack River.” Click [here](#) for more info.

June 22 (Sunday) – NORTH RIVER (SOUTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – “History of Stetson Meadow” walk, 1:00 PM start, sponsored by the [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#) (NSRWA). “Stetson Meadow is a 116-acre hidden treasure with fields, trails and a beautiful view of the North River and its vast marsh. Learn the history of Cornet Robert Stetson who settled this area 14 years after the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth from Judy Grecco, a descendant of the Stetsons!” The walk is free for NSRWA members, and \$5/nonmembers. Click [here](#) or call (781) 659-8168 for more info.

June 22 (Sunday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – Slocum River Kayak Tour, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the [Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies](#). Paddle the Slocum River, explore the river’s scenic estuary, extraordinary views, great birding & paddling; tour includes basic kayak equipment & instruction. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Wear clothing and footwear that you don’t mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an [Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures](#) Certified Instructor. Fee: \$45/members, \$55/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Preregistration required; click [here](#) or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 24 (Tuesday) – SUDBURY-ASSABET-CONCORD WATERSHED – Sustainable Water Management: A Public Forum on Your Water Resources in the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River Watershed, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM in Hudson, sponsored by the Town of Hudson, [OARS: For the Assabet, Sudbury and Concord Rivers](#), and several other partners. “Join us to understand how our communities can balance drinking water needs with environmental protection, under new Massachusetts regulations. Massachusetts is changing how it permits large water withdrawals in order to protect our streams and rivers and provide for a sustainable supply of drinking water for the future. For some communities, increasing the quantity of drinking water will required development of a plan with elements to balance these increases. This meeting will present results of a study completed for six communities – Hudson, Marlborough, Maynard, Stow, Sudbury and Wayland – to identify ways they can meet Massachusetts’ new requirements. Join the project team to understand how these changes could affect your municipality and learn about water conservation and efficient use, wastewater and stormwater recharge, protecting coldwater fish, and much more. There will be ample time for Q & A and discussion.” The event takes place at the Hudson Town Hall Auditorium, 78 Main Street in Hudson. Click [here](#) or call OARS at (978) 369-3956 for more info.

June 24 (Tuesday) – WEKEPEKE BROOK (NASHUA WATERSHED) – Dam Removal Celebration in Lancaster, 1:30 PM, sponsored by the Town of Lancaster, along with the Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) and other project partners. Come celebrate the completion of the removal of the Bartlett Dam and the [restoration of a free-flowing section of Wekepeke Brook](#). The event takes place at the Robert Frommer Conservation Area, Route 117 in Lancaster (see [map](#)). Please contact DER project manager Alex Hackman [(617) 626-1548, alex.hackman@state.ma.us] for more info.

June 24-25 (Tuesday-Wednesday) – CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED – *A Hands-On Wetland Restoration Workshop for Professionals*, hosted by (and taking place at) [Mass Audubon's Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#) in Barnstable. "Isolated wetlands provide vital habitat to many species of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Unfortunately, a majority of these ecosystems have been lost or degraded due to draining and filling throughout New England. These landscape modifications are now affecting recovery efforts for endangered species, reducing water quality, increasing flooding, and reducing ground water supplies. Fortunately, it's now possible to restore these altered and degraded wetlands, re-establishing the hydro-periods, aquatic vegetation, and animal life that once existed. This hands-on workshop is designed for individuals interested in learning how to use practical, low cost techniques for restoring naturally appearing and functioning wetlands. Participants will see how wetland projects can be planned in land trust properties and other private conserved lands, public land, and even on school grounds to benefit plants, animals, and people. This workshop is intended for biologists, land managers, foresters, hydrologists, engineers, technicians, educators, and other non-profit and environmental organization professionals. Fee: \$225, which includes lunches on both days, hand-out materials, and a signed copy of the book *Wetland Restoration and Construction - A Technical Guide* by Thomas Biebighauser. (A registration discount is available for nonprofits.) Click [here](#), [here](#), or contact Ian Ives at (508) 362-7475 ext. 9350 or ives@massaudubon.org to sign up or for more info.

June 25 (Wednesday) – NAUSET MARSH (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Paddling Nauset Marsh* in Eastham, sponsored by the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. "Nine plus mile paddle. Contact leader for directions to put-in. PFD required. Spray skirt may be required." Pre-registration required; click [here](#) or contact trip leader George Wey [(781) 789-8005, geowey@comcast.net] to sign up or for more info.

June 25 (Wednesday) – TAUNTON RIVER – *Conserving Community Resources in the Face of Sea Level Rise: Assessing Vulnerabilities and Defining Choices*, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Dighton, co-sponsored by the [Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts](#) and [Save the Bay](#). Allegra Wrocklage of the Wildlands Trust and Rachel Calabro of Save the Bay will talk about identifying risks and vulnerabilities as well as point out opportunities for land protection and stewardship. The event takes place at the Bristol County Agricultural High School Auditorium, 135 Center Street, Dighton MA (see [map](#)). Click [here](#) for more info.

June 25 (Wednesday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Walk to West Cambridge*, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). This moderately paced, 5-mi. city walk will include Longfellow Park, Brattle Street, and many historic stops, and return along the Charles River. Meet in front of Harvard Square T-Stop, at the top of the stairs. Heavy rain/storm cancels. No dogs; non-AMC members \$1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click [here](#) or contact either of the trip leaders: Robert Winters [(617) 661-9230, Robert@rwinters.com] or George Hovorka [(781) 771-8604 (best time to call: before 9:00 PM)] for more info.

June 26 (Thursday) – SUDBURY WATERSHED – *Exploring Wetland Shrubs*, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at [Garden in the Woods](#) in Framingham, co-sponsored by the [Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions](#) and the [New England Wild Flower Society](#). "With so many wetland habitats, and a pond, stream, and bog, Garden in the Woods is an excellent field site to examine shrubs that grow in and around wetlands. Instructor and naturalist Roland 'Boot' Boutwell will introduce you to 15-20 New England shrubs as well as a handful of shrubs that grow in higher and drier habitats. Please bring lunch, and a hand lens and shrub field guide, if you have them." Fee: \$53/members, \$64/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (508) 877-7630 ext. 3301 to sign up or for more info.

June 26 (Thursday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Kayak "Eco-Tour" from Nahanton Park* in Newton, 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM, offered by [Charles River Canoe and Kayak](#). "Join our trained naturalist guide as we launch our double kayaks and get a quick introduction to paddling strokes. We will slowly explore this extraordinarily wild section of the river, poking into coves and shallows to find common and not-so-common wildlife. We frequently see great blue herons, turtles, several types of ducks, a variety of songbirds, and perhaps an egret, cormorant, muskrat, river otter, and beaver. Our guide will show us the best viewing spots, identify the flora and fauna that

we see, and describe how they fit into the intricate web of life on the Charles. We'll even see remnants of the area's glaciated past. Our guide will also net-dip for benthic (bottom-dwelling) organisms like dragonfly larvae and water-boatmen. We offer our Eco-Tour in the evening, as this is one of the best times to view active wildlife. Bring binoculars, water, snacks, and extra clothing layers." This trip begins/ends at the [Nahanton Park rental location](#). Cost: \$39/adult, \$29/child accompanied by an adult. Click [here](#) to reserve your spot or for more info.

June 26 (Friday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – “Native Plants Gardens for Beauty and Bounty” workshop, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM in Amesbury, sponsored by the [Ecological Landscaping Association](#) (ELA). Featuring native plants, natural garden design brings a taste of the wilderness to urban, suburban, and commercial settings by providing beauty for humans and bounty that attracts a variety of birds, butterflies and other wildlife. And once established, native plant gardens require fewer inputs (fertilizer or water) which benefit the environment while saving on maintenance costs. Join [Nanette Masi](#) for this behind-the-scenes tour demonstrating the natural beauty of three of her designed gardens, including her personal garden, whose natural setting includes a freshwater tidal marsh, a stream, and a view of the Merrimack River. Click [here](#) to sign up and [here](#) for more info.

June 27 (Friday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – Guided Sunset Kayak Tour, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM in Lowell, sponsored by the [UMass/Lowell Kayak Center](#). “On this guided tour, an instructor will meet you at the Boathouse bay doors ([500 Pawtucket Ave.](#), Lowell) at 7:00 PM and paddle upstream on the Merrimack River. Although the boathouse is located downtown, the Merrimack offers a quiet oasis, and it will be hard to believe you are still in the city. We will take a side-trip up a nearby creek and under an old mill before watching the sky blaze in a colorful sunset. In the twilight we will float gently back to the Boathouse. Please come 15 minutes early if you would like kayaking instruction. Please register in advance today, as the group size is limited to 10 people.” Fee: \$30/person. Click [here](#) or call Rachel at (978) 934-1932 to sign up or for more info.

[>return to top of document](#)

June 28 – July 6

June 28 (Saturday) – SCORTON CREEK (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – Kayak Scorton Creek, 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM in Sandwich, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Scorton Creek, a tidal creek, offers great opportunities to view salt marsh species of birds and other beach inhabitants within a quiet and calm environment. This is a good trip for those less confident in open water paddling. There will be opportunity for boaters to pull ashore for a beachcombing leg. The total paddling time is about 1 hour and 20 minutes. This trip is intended for those with previous kayaking experience, yet all experience levels are welcome. Children 12 and over may participate with a parent. Participants will be required to wear a life vest. Kayaks, paddles and life vests provided.” Fee: Adults/Children 12+: \$43/members, \$48/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 362-7475 to sign up or for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – ACUSHNET RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – Buzzards Bay Swim, [5:30 \(!\) AM – 7:00 AM](#) start, sponsored by (and benefitting) the [Buzzards Bay Coalition](#). “Celebrate a clean, healthy Buzzards Bay at the Buzzards Bay Swim on Saturday, June 28! Join more than 300 others who make a difference to protect and restore our irreplaceable Bay. You can swim, volunteer, or cheer on swimmers as they cross outer New Bedford Harbor.” The 1.2 mile open-water course begins in New Bedford's South End, crossing outer New Bedford Harbor before ending at Fort Phoenix State Reservation in Fairhaven. If you prefer not to swim, you can sign up to be part of the kayak safety flotilla to escort swimmers across the harbor, or volunteer at the event to check in participants, serve food and refreshments, and cheer for each swimmer that crosses the finish line. Click [here](#) for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – SLOCUM RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *Introduction to Stand-up Paddling*, 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM in South Dartmouth, sponsored by the [Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies](#). Stand-Up Paddle Boarding is a fun way to explore the waterways, improve your balance and get a fantastic core workout. Anyone can Stand-Up Paddle, including people with no surfing or paddling experience at all. You must be comfortable in the water and want to try something new, though. Wear clothing and footwear that you don't mind getting wet, and bring a non-alcoholic beverage. Trip will be led by an [Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures](#) Certified Instructor. Fee: \$50/members, \$60/nonmembers. Limit: 10; open to ages 14 and older. Pre-registration required; click [here](#) or call (508) 990-0505 to sign up or for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – WESTPORT RIVER (BUZZARDS BAY WATERSHED) – *River Day: the Westport River – a Resource for Generations*, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, sponsored by the [Westport River Watershed Alliance](#). The event will take place at the Head of Westport Landing (for activities, education, exhibitors, music, food, fun – starts at 10:00 AM) and Hix Bridge Landing for the “River Paddle” Kick-off at 9:00 AM. Come celebrate WRWA's 35+ years of environmental stewardship and learn about the many environmental resources in the watershed. Click [here](#) or call (508) 636-3016 for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Evening Canoe on the Charles*, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary](#). Enjoy a paddle down one of the most beautiful stretches of the Charles River, past Medfield State Hospital and up into the Medfield marshes. Watch as the sun sets over the river and listen for the evening sounds of birds, frogs and other creatures. Canoes, paddles, lifejackets, a basic paddling overview & guides are all provided. Fee: Adults \$35/members, \$45/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 655-2296 to sign up or for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – NORTH NASHUA RIVER (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Nashua River Brewer's Festival*, 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM at [Riverfront Park in Fitchburg](#), sponsored by [Beers for Good](#). One of the [Fitchburg Civic Days](#) events, the Festival offers an opportunity to listen to live music, enjoy beverages, and other fun activities, with all proceeds going to charitable organizations served by the [Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts](#). Click [here](#) or write to beersforgood@gmail.com for more info, and click [here](#) to see photos taken at last year's event.

June 28 (Saturday) – CONNECTICUT RIVER – *Family Eagle Expedition*, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM in Gill, sponsored by the [Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Education Center](#). “Using a tandem kayak is a great way for an adult and child to give paddling a try; and visiting the Barton Cove Eagle nest is the perfect mini expedition for new paddlers. Kids can paddle as they are able and parents can provide the power and direction for the boat as we try to glimpse eaglets on the nest, exercising before their first flight. The group will begin learning paddling basics on land, how to turn and go straight and then set off across the Cove. Bring along a snack and drink to enjoy while the group takes a break from paddling before returning to our starting point. No prior kayaking experience is required. Life jackets will be worn by all participants during the program. Fee: \$20/adult/child pair. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 659-3714 or (800) 859-2960 to sign up or for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – HOUSATONIC WATERSHED – *“Bob's Way” hike*, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Monterey, sponsored by the [Berkshire Natural Resources Council](#). Come explore the [BNRC's Bob's Way property](#) in Monterey. Get a great view from Dave's Bench and see a beautiful beaver swamp on this intermediate hike. Directions: From the center of Monterey, take Rt. 23 East to the Otis town line. Look for the Bob's Way trailhead on the right. Carpooling is always appreciated. Email mleavitt@bnrc.net with questions!”

June 28 (Saturday) – DEERFIELD RIVER – *Charlemont Downriver Canoe and Kayak Race*, sponsored by the [New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association](#) (NECKRA). A six-mile race on Class I and II water. Registration starts at 11:00 AM; race starts at 1:45 PM. Awards at the Charlemont Inn; trophies to the top three finishers in each class. Click [here](#) or contact race organizer Charlie Brackett [(603) 585-7167 (home) or (603) 303-1396 (cell)] for more info.

June 28 (Saturday) – FRENCH RIVER – *Family Canoeing on the French River*, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “The French River flows south from Leicester to Dudley before joining the Quinebaug River in Connecticut. The meandering section, from [Leovich Landing](#) to [Hodges Village Dam](#), offers great canoeing and wildlife viewing, and is a wonderful way to spend a summer afternoon. This is the perfect experience for beginner paddlers, since we will practice in flat, quiet water and then head out to test our steering skills. Learn about the creatures that rely on our rivers while enjoying a peaceful outing on the water. Bring binoculars if you have them.” Canoes, paddles and PFDs are provided. Fee: Adults: \$15/members, \$20/non-members; Children \$8. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 753-6087 to sign up or for more info.

June 28-29 (Saturday-Sunday) – FRENCH RIVER – *2014 XTERRA French River Festival* in Oxford. This event includes the [XTERRA French River Trail Run](#) on Saturday and, on Sunday, the **XTERRA French River Triathlon**, consisting of a 1/2 mile swim in Carbuncle Pond, followed by the single-loop 11 mile mountain bike course over a variety of terrain around and across the French River (primarily single track) and then a hilly and technical 5.5 mile single-loop trail run, that will test the most extreme trail runner. Click [here](#) or contact Alex Rogozenski [Alex@MRAMultisport.com or (774) 272-1767] for more info.

June 29 (Sunday) – GOOSE PONDS (HOUSATONIC WATERSHED) – *Canoe Trip to Lower and Upper Goose Ponds*, 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Tyringham and Lee, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon's Berkshire Sanctuaries](#). “Explore the coves and marshes of one of the Berkshires’ most beautiful lakes. Paddle across Lower Goose Pond to pristine Upper Goose Pond in search of ravens, hawks, herons, and a variety of songbirds. Eat a snack onshore and search for interesting plant and animal life along the Appalachian Trail. We will walk one mile on the Appalachian Trail before paddling back.” Fee: Adults \$25/members, \$30/non-members. Canoes, PFDs and paddles are provided. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (413) 637-0320 to sign up or for more info.

June 29 (Sunday) – ESSEX RIVER (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Plein Air Painting workshop*, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at [Cogswell's Grant](#) (60 Spring Street, Essex), sponsored by [Historic New England](#). “Join award-winning Gloucester artist David Curtis, and palette knife painter Marianne Thompson, for a plein air painting workshop at Cogswell’s Grant. Beautiful vistas including the Essex River and Great Marsh, farm fields and forests, and our eighteenth-century historic house and barns offer an ideal setting for landscape painters looking to refine their skills with expert instruction. For this drop-in class, bring your own materials and equipment, receive direction as you work, and gather for an end-of-day critique with the instructors. A free tour of one of the country’s most celebrated collections of American folk art is available to participants.” Fee: \$20/members, \$25/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (978) 768-3632 to sign up or for more info.

June 30 (Monday) – NORTH NASHUA RIVER (NASHUA WATERSHED) – *Fitchburg Civic Days*, 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM at [Riverfront Park in Fitchburg](#), sponsored by the [City of Fitchburg](#). Events scheduled include the Annual Doll Carriage & Bicycle Parade from 1:00 – 3:00 PM; a Chicken Barbeque & Fitchburg Military Band performance from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM; and the Annual Amazing Duck Race, taking place at 6:00 PM. Click [here](#) for info on how to “buy” a duck for the race, or for more info on that and the other Civic Days events.

June 30 (Monday) – HOOSIC RIVER – *DamNation documentary film screening*, 7:00 PM in Williamstown. A screening of the documentary film [DamNation](#) will be taking place at the Images Cinema, 50 Spring Street in Williamstown. All proceeds from this event, sponsored by [Nature's Closet](#), will be donated to the [Hoosic River Watershed Association](#) (HooRWA). Click [here](#) for more info.

July 1 (Tuesday) – MILL RIVER (BLACKSTONE WATERSHED) – *Paddle the Hopedale Pond* impoundment on the Mill River in Hopedale, launching promptly at 6:15 PM, sponsored by the [Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association](#) (RICKA)’s [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#). Suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. “The town was settled in 1842 as a Utopian socialist commune, and evolved into the home of the Draper Corp, at one time the world’s largest manufacturer of automatic cotton looms. Hopedale has an area of

only 5 square miles, a population of about 6,000 and is located in the Blackstone Valley.” Directions to put-in: Take Rte. 16 into Hopedale, then take Hopedale Street north for about 3/4 of a mile, passing massive Draper Loom Mill on left. Canoe launch is on left, just past The Little Red Shop. Club membership is required to take part in this event; click [here](#) for more details. Click [here](#) or contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@cox.net or (401) 647-5887 for more info on this trip. In the event of a last minute cancellation or modification to a paddle trip, please check the [Message Board](#) and the [website](#) for updates.

July 2 (Wednesday) – HOUSATONIC RIVER – *Paddle through Historic Stockbridge*, 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM, sponsored by the [Housatonic Valley Association](#). “This family friendly, 5-mile stretch of the Housatonic River meanders through the Stockbridge Country Club and past the Norman Rockwell Museum. Learn about the birds that call the Housatonic River home, and enjoy sightings of Baltimore orioles and other wildlife as you paddle. Put in at Park Street, Stockbridge and take out at the new access at Glendale Dam, installed by Enel Green Energy, which owns and operates the Glendale Hydroelectric site. Suitable for families with children 6 years and older.” Pre-registration is required; contact Alison Dixon [(413) 394-9796 or adixon@hvatoday.org] to sign up or for more info.

July 2 (Wednesday) – HERRING RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayak Trip: Herring River, Harwich*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “Explore the winding tidal rivers, quiet bays, and scenic marshes of Cape Cod with an experienced paddler during this three-hour kayak trip. The Herring River is the mid-Cape’s largest freshwater system. The town of Harwich and the Harwich Conservation Trust have worked to preserve much of the shorelines and surrounding uplands of this special place. We will skirt the cedar swamps as we paddle from freshwater to brackish to saltwater. An extensive cattail swamp allows close encounters with nesting birds, such as red-winged blackbirds and marsh wrens. Many song birds are observed in nearby woodlands and something is always blooming or changing color.” Fee: Adults (and children 12-17 accompanied by an adult): \$45/members, \$49/non-members. “Participants may choose among available single, tandem, and sea kayaks, or bring their own kayak to save \$10. All equipment is provided; all participants must wear life jackets. We recommend that you bring sunscreen, windbreaker, hat, and drinking water. There are no facilities, such as restrooms or water fountains, at the meeting places.” Pre-registration is required; previous (recent) paddling experience and good swimming ability are also required. Click [here](#) or call (508) 349-2615 to sign up or for more info.

July 4 (Friday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Independence Day Celebration at the Charles River Esplanade*, featuring a performance by the Boston Pops Orchestra, followed by fireworks. One of the best ways to take in this celebration is [from a canoe or kayak in the river](#). Click [here](#) for additional info.

July 5 (Saturday) – QUINCY BAY (BOSTON HARBOR WATERSHED) – *Parks and Greenways walk* in Quincy, 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). This will be a 7-mile walk with beach, woods, salt marshes and historic sites. Bring lunch. Directions: Take Quincy Shore Drive to Wollaston Yacht Club pier at Beach St.; or take the Red Line to Wollaston Station, and walk 1 mile to the pier. Email if severe weather. No dogs; non-AMC members \$1. While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click [here](#) or contact trip leader Mike Tuohey [breadcrumbs60@gmail.com] with any questions.

July 5 (Saturday) – MASHPEE RIVER (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayak The Mashpee River and Popponesset Bay*, 9:00AM – 12:00 Noon in Mashpee, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary](#). “The Mashpee River encompasses three distinct habitats including freshwater, brackish and saltwater and is surrounded by the Mashpee Woodlands Conservation Area. Blueback Herring pass through these waters to and from their spawning grounds. Nesting marsh wrens and red winged blackbirds are plentiful along the shoreline and surrounding marsh and ospreys can be seen fishing overhead. Popponesset bay offers spectacular views. This trip is intended for those with previous kayaking experience, yet all experience levels are welcome. Participants will be required to wear a life vest. Kayaks, paddles and life vests provided. Fee: Adults

(and children 12+): \$43/members, \$48/non-members. Pre-registration is required; click [here](#) or call (508) 362-7475 to sign up or for more info.

July 5 (Saturday) – NAUSET MARSH (CAPE AND ISLANDS WATERSHED) – *Kayaking the Nauset Marsh*, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM in Eastham, offered by [Cape Kayaking](#). “A nostalgic and calming paddle through the tidal flats of the Nauset Marsh. Winding through the maze of exposed sand bars and marsh walls reveals many small wonders. The shallow waters make visible sea snails, crabs, fish and submerged vegetation that make up this complex estuary. Venturing through the shallow waters of low tide in the Nauset Harbor means few boaters and many exposed shellfish for the birds to feed on. The paddle starts from Hemenway Boat Landing in Eastham, and the duration is approximately three hours on water, with a short break on one of the many sand bars where you can learn techniques in how to find clams in the tidal flats. This is an excellent paddle for the nature lover and birder alike”. Cost is \$60 per person; as there is limited space, reservations are required. Click [here](#) or contact Cape Kayaking [(508) 247-7402 or Jonathan@CapeKayaking.com] to sign up or for more info.

July 5 (Saturday) – MERRIMACK RIVER – “Trash Patrol” Paddle on the Merrimack River in Tyngsborough, sponsored by the [New Hampshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). “The popular Trash Patrol Paddles are back! Spend a great day out on the water and leave the river a little cleaner than you found it. We supply everything but the canoe or kayak! Contact trip leader for details and directions.” Pre-registration is required; click [here](#), [here](#) or contact trip leader Denise Hurt [(603) 889-4812 (best time to call: 9 AM - 9 PM), hurt28@charter.net] to sign up or for more info.

July 5 (Saturday) – GREAT MARSH (NORTH COASTAL WATERSHED) – *Life on a Saltwater Farm: Paine House Tours for 17th-Century Saturdays*, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM at [Greenwood Farm](#) in Ipswich, sponsored by [The Trustees of Reservations](#). “Situated on the edge of the Great Marsh, the 1694 Paine House at Greenwood Farm is the site of 250 years of family farming. Local residents set up fish drying stages, pastured cattle communally, and harvested salt marsh hay. A tour through the Paine House will illuminate the unique features of this First Period structure, including an ‘in situ’ dairy. Trails through the pastureland and the salt marsh are open to all daily, sunrise to sunset.” Click [here](#) or call (978) 356-4351 ext. 4049 for more info.

July 6 (Sunday) – WESTFIELD WATERSHED – *Canoe Trip to Buckley-Dunton Lake*, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Becket, sponsored by [Mass. Audubon’s Berkshire Sanctuaries](#). “Beavers and herons are active along the shore of this pond, the largest water body in October Mountain State Forest. Explore the bogs, coves and inlets of this beautiful pond, go ashore to eat a snack, see the boreal plant communities, and watch for signs of animals such as porcupines and moose.” Canoes, paddles and PFDs will be provided. Children must be at least 10 years of age, accompanied by an adult, and know how to swim. Bring food, drink, insect repellent, and sunscreen. Fee: Adults \$20/members, \$25/non-members. Click [here](#) or call (413) 637-0320 to sign up or for more info, and click [here](#) to read an article about this paddling destination.

July 6 (Sunday) – CHARLES RIVER – *Charles River’s Edge walk* in Cambridge, Charlestown and Boston, 10:00 AM start, sponsored by the [Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club](#). This will be an approximately 5-6mi. walk via North Point Park, the new North Bank Bridge, USS Constitution, and Charles River Dam. Meet at the gazebo at Cambridgeside Galleria Mall fountain (see [map](#)). Bring lunch water and a desire to explore. We’ll cover the past, present, and future plans for this historic area. [Note: On Sundays, Cambridge parking meters are free, and it’s OK to park on streets marked for Resident Permit Parking.] While pre-registration is not required for this activity, you may want to click [here](#) or contact the trip leader [Robert Winters, (617) 661-9230, Robert@rwinters.com] with any questions.

[>return to top of document](#)

Last But Not Least –



If you have a river- or wetland-related event that **falls outside** of the time period covered by the ***Massachusetts Rivers and Wetlands Months Calendar*** (4/26 – 7/6/14), it is possible that you can get it listed on the [Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism](#) (aka MOTT or [Massvacation.com](#)) **website** – click [here](#) to submit your info. [See also MOTT’s [science/nature](#) and [outdoor activities](#) web pages.]

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Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration – 2014 Massachusetts Rivers and Wetlands Months Calendar

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, [Maeve Valley Bartlett](#), Secretary
Department of Fish and Game, Mary B. Griffin, Commissioner

251 Causeway St. Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
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<http://www.mass.gov/der>

The mission of the Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) is to restore and protect the health and integrity of the Commonwealth's rivers, wetlands, and watersheds for the benefit of people, fish, and wildlife.